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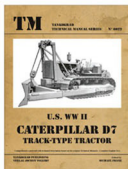


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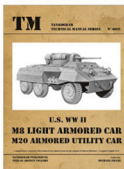
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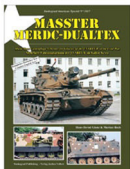
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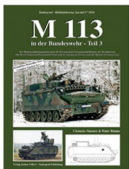
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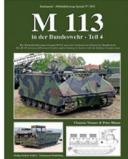
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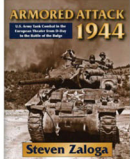
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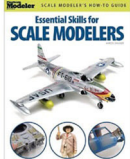
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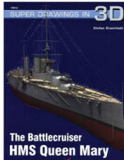
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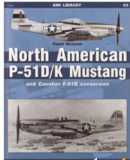
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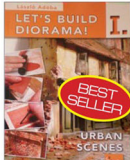
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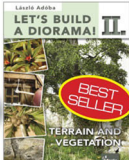
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1:24 CHAMP FROM KIT FORM SERVICES

Kit Form Services has just released an all-new 1:24 scale FV1801 Austin Champ kit.

The kit comprises:

- 89 in polyurethane resin
- 64 in white metal
- 178 in 10 thou etched brass (including early version semaphore indicators)
- Woven wire rad mesh
- Headlights
- Pre coloured tail lights & indicator lens
- Optional resin folded food or Solartex erected hood
- Decals include 6 user units

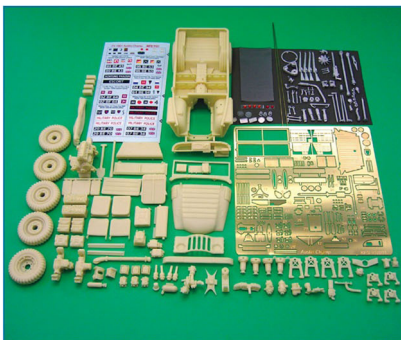
The kit features a highly detailed Rolls Royce B40 with opening bonnet, detailed underside with torsion bar suspension, folding windscreen & front seats, folding

rear seat/cargo platform & folded hood. A complete FFR conversion package including replacement 2 speed generator, control panel, 3 radios (C42/B47) connection boxes & ATU is also supplied, plus a front pintle mounted .30 cal MG, & 4 x .303 Lee Enfield rifles.

Decals for six operating units including Parachute Regiment, Royal Marines, 4th RTR L.A.D., 16/5th Lancers & Royal Military Police and full instructions are offered.

The price of the kit is £110.00. A pair of RMP figures in 1950s battledress to accompany the Champ are also due for release at about the same time. Further details on these to follow.

Kit Form Services products are available online from their website www.kitformservices.com



INSIDE THE ARMOUR COVENANTER

Inside the Armour's most ambitious release to date is their full 1:35 scale kit of the Covenantar, formerly of Cromwell Models. This represents ITA's first (but definitely not last) full kit in resin and metal.

Kit No. 35045 Covenantar I/II/IV includes over 200 resin parts, a partial interior, turned metal barrels, all-new instructions in exploded diagram format and sufficient optional parts to build the kit into a Mk.I, Mk.II or Mk.IV.

This is the only model of the Covenantar currently available in 1:35 scale. RRP is £90.00.

Also newly available from Inside the Armour this month is a 1:35 scale Churchill Mk.II

Late Production conversion. This includes all the parts required to build a Churchill Mk.II in a partially reworked or fully reworked configuration (with post rework suspension). This conversion also includes a fret of photo-etched parts, including air intakes, tool clamps, hatch handles, front fenders and more, and turned metal 2pdr and coaxial Besa barrels.

Yet more new releases are French WWII 47mm ammunition and French WWII 75mm ammunition sets in turned brass and photo-etch.

All these new releases are available now from Inside the Armour and selected stockists www.insidethearmour.com



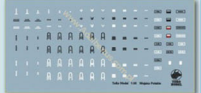
NEW FROM ACCURATE ARMOUR

Accurate Armour's newest full kit release is the Avis Saladin (Sally) in 1:35 scale, which is available in two versions - with or without a full interior. The research and master were done by Jon Bottomley over a period of two years following the expert restoration of a real vehicle in the UK.

Additional new releases from Accurate Armour this month include:

- Challenger-2 Power Pack (A148);
- Lifting beam Set (A149);
- Daimler Dingo crew cover & stowage (A152);
- Land-Rover 15 spoke alloy wheels (LRA009);
- Land-Rover 12 spoke alloy wheels (LRA008)

Accurate Armour products are available online from their website www.accurate-armour.com

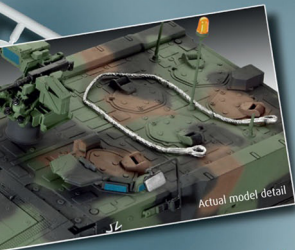


POLISH DANA DRIVER

Hang on a minute. This guy looks familiar... Toro Models has cast and packaged Kamel Feliks Sztarabala's Polish Dana driver as featured in Issue 68 of Model Military International magazine, and added decals in a new 1:35 scale release.

This driver will add character to your 1:35 scale HobbyBoss DANA, and the decal markings mean that you won't go blind trying to paint epaulettes and other tiny uniform features.

The DANA driver is available now from Adalbertus' website www.adalbertus.com.pl



Heavyweight Hero

1:35 GTK Boxer (GTFz)

03093

When the situation on the battlefield demands stealth, mobility, optimal protection and high performance the GTK Boxer Motorised Armoured Transport is the best solution in its class. It's modular construction enables it to carry eight fully equipped infantrymen into action, while the FLW 200 weapons platform, fitted with either a 12.7mm machine gun or a 40mm multiple grenade launcher provides effective defensive armament.

Replacing the 'Fuchs' and 'M113' armoured transports, the Boxer began service with the German Bundeswehr in 2009 and the Dutch armed forces in 2011.

This highly detailed model kit replicates the 2011 production unit with separate driving and mission modules. It can be fitted with a choice

of weapon systems and the detailed driving position is visible through a moveable hatch.

Model details:

- Finely engraved surface detail
- Authentic chassis
- Modular construction faithful to the original
- FLW 200 with a choice of either MG or 40 mm grenade launcher
- Accurate smoke discharge unit
- Rubber tyres
- Detailed driving position with moveable hatch
- Authentic decals for 4 vehicle variants

For more details on this brand new 1:35 scale model kit as well as the complete range of Revell products check out our International website at www.revell.eu

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Build Your Dream!



Right hand side view of a basic M1126 Stryker infantry carrier. (Photo by Sgt. Lisa Jendry, U.S. Army)

STRYKER FAMILY

The Stryker is a family of eight-wheeled armoured fighting vehicles currently in service with the US Army. They have been developed from the Canadian LAV III and are produced by General Dynamics Land Systems. Stryker equipped brigades are intended to be capable of being rapidly deployed over long distances.

The vehicle family is named after two US servicemen who were posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor: Pfc Stuart S. Stryker and Spc4 Robert F. Stryker.

DEVELOPMENT

In 1999, the UN sanctioned air operations against Serbia began with its dealings in Kosovo. The US Army attempted to deploy a taskforce to Albania to support operations in Kosovo but due to an unwieldy command structure and the logistics tail that was required to support heavy assets such as the Abrams Tanks and Bradleys, the task force took too long to deploy and the war ended before it could be fully deployed.

In October 1999, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, General Eric Shinseki, outlined a plan for the army that would bring it into the 21st Century. He wanted to be able to deploy a Brigade Combat Team anywhere around the world within 96 hours and the full

Stuart Ransley describes the development, specifications, performance and variants of the Stryker family of eight-wheeled armoured fighting vehicles.



Front view of a basic M1126 Stryker infantry carrier. (Photo by Sgt. Lisa Jendry, U.S. Army)

division in 120 hours. The new unit was to be initially known as the Interim Brigade Combat Team. The unit would have to be light enough to be air transportable, possess considerable firepower and have a basic logistics tail. To accomplish this, the plan called for the introduction of an 'Interim

Armoured Vehicle'. It was decided that this new vehicle was to be wheeled instead of tracked so as to lessen maintenance time. The new vehicle would fill the capability gap between the heavy and lethal, but not so easily deployable M2 Bradley and M1 Abrams, and easily deployed, but lightly armed and

protected Humvee. In late 1999 eleven firms sent vehicles for trials and amid much controversy on 16 November 2000, a variant of the Canadian LAV III, offered by the General Dynamics-General Motors Defence Canada team was selected as the interim Armoured Vehicle. On 27 February 2002, the



A side view of an M1127 Stryker Reconnaissance vehicle at the National Training Centre, Fort Irwin, Calif. (U.S. Army photo by Mr. Max Ellison)



Side view of a M1135 Stryker NBC Reconnaissance vehicle. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Kim Browne)



Side view of an M1129 MC -B. (photo US Army)



Close up of the front of a M1128 MGS. (photo US Army)

US Army formally named the new vehicle after two Medal of Honour recipients, Pfc Stuart S. Stryker and Spc4 Robert F. Stryker.

PERFORMANCE

The Stryker family was originally powered by a Caterpillar 3126 diesel engine coupled to an Allison MD 3066P Auto Transmission. This combination gave a top speed of 96.5 kmph (62.5 mph) and a range of 532 km. As part of an upgrade program, the Caterpillar 3126 engine was recently replaced by a Caterpillar C7 engine and the Allison 3200SP Transmission.

The driver can alter the pressure in all eight tyres to suit terrain conditions. There are four settings: highway, cross-country, mud/sand/snow, and emergency. The system will warn the driver if the vehicle exceeds the recommended speed for its tyre pressure, it will then automatically inflate the tyres to the next higher pressure setting. The system can also warn the driver of a flat tyre.

To make maintenance easier, almost all cables, hoses, and mechanical systems are fitted with quick-disconnecting mechanisms. As a result, the engine and transmission may be removed and reinstalled in two hours. This allows for repairs to the turbocharger and other components to be done outside the vehicle.

COMMAND, CONTROL, AND TARGETING

The Stryker has extensive computer support to assist soldiers to fight the enemy while reducing friendly fire incidents. Each vehicle can track friendly vehicles in the field as well as detect the enemy. The driver and the vehicle commander's positions are fitted with periscopes that allow them to see outside the vehicle without exposing themselves. The vehicle commander also has a day-night thermal imaging camera. Soldiers can practice training with the vehicles from computer training modules inside the vehicle.

General Dynamics Land Systems is developing a new Power and Data Management Architecture to handle computer upgrades.

PROTECTION

The Stryker's armour offers a basic level of protection against 14.5mm rounds on the frontal arc, and all-around protection against 7.62mm ball ammunition. They are also equipped with a bolt-on ceramic armour kit that gives all-around protection against 14.5mm, armour-piercing ammunition, and artillery fragments from 152mm artillery rounds. Problems were

encountered with the initial batch of ceramic armour but this was resolved in 2003.

In addition to the ceramic armour, several optional packages have been developed. These include:

- Slat armour
- Stryker reactive armour tiles (SRAT) for protection against rocket propelled grenades (RPG) and other projectiles,
- Hull protection kit (HPK), armoured skirts for additional protection against improvised explosive devices, and
- A ballistic shield to protect the commander's hatch. ▶

An M1129 MGS firing its main gun in Herat, Afghanistan, Jan. 21, 2010. Note the Slat Armour around the vehicle. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Dayton Mitchell)





An M1133 Medical Evacuation Vehicle. (photo US Army)



M1134 Antitank Guided Missile Vehicle. (photo US Army)

◀ The Stryker is also equipped with an automatic fire-extinguishing system. There are sensors fitted in the engine and troop compartments that activate one or more halon fire bottles. The system can also be activated by the driver. The vehicle is fitted with a CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) Warfare system that keeps the crew compartment airtight and positively pressurised.

VARIANTS

The requirements for the design called for ten variants of the basic Stryker with a common engine, transmission, hydraulics, wheels, tyres, differentials and transfer case. This was to make logistics easier. The variants are:

- M1126 Infantry Carrier Vehicle (ICV): the basic Armoured personnel carrier version that provides protected transport for 2 crew and a 9 man infantry squad, can support dismounted infantry. Weighs 19 tons. It is fitted with an M151 Remote Weapons Station that can be armed with 0.50 inch M2 Browning machine gun, 40 mm

MK19 grenade launcher or 7.62 mm M240 machine gun.

- M1127 Reconnaissance Vehicle is used by RSTA Squadrons and battalion scouts, moving throughout the battlefield to gather and transmit real time intelligence/surveillance for situational awareness. The RV's purpose is to anticipate and avert threats, improving the brigade's decisiveness and freedom of maneuver.
- M1128 Mobile Gun System (MGS) is armed with a 105 mm M68A1E4 rifled gun (a lightweight version of the gun system used on the original M1 Abrams main battle tanks and the M60 Patton main battle tank), in a fully stabilised, low profile turret. It also carries a 7.62mm M240 mounted coaxially to the main gun, an M2 0.50 caliber commander's machine gun and two M6 smoke grenade launchers. The turret is unmanned with all crew in the hull of the vehicle. The M68A1E4 is fitted with an autoloader, a rare feature on US tank guns. The MGS provides direct and indirect fire support, engaging stationary and mobile enemy

targets, such as bunkers and other fortified positions, it can also engage and destroy most armoured vehicles such as light tanks, armoured personnel carriers and older generation main battle tanks. The MGS carries 18 rounds of 105mm (8 in the auto loader), 400 rounds of 0.50 caliber and 3,400 rounds of 7.62 mm. It is fitted with the same C4ISR communications and driver's vision as the ICV. The MGS is a strengthened variant of the LAV III compared to the standard variant other Stryker

vehicles are based on, but retains commonality across all vehicles in the family.

- M1129 Mortar Carrier - A was the original version of the mortar carrier. It was equipped with a M151 Protector Remote Weapon Station in front of the commander's hatch. Vehicles in the battalion mortar platoons carried two mortars that had to be dismounted to fire, the M121 120mm Mortar and the M252 81mm Mortar. Vehicles in the company mortar platoons were armed with the M252 81mm



M1134 Antitank Guided Missile Vehicle in Afghanistan. (photo US Army)



Close up of the M151 Remote Weapon station fitted to a M1126 Stryker. (photo US Army)

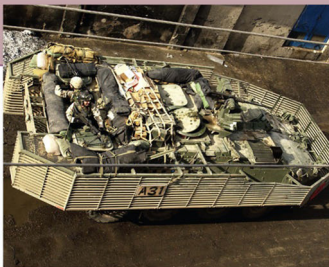


M1132 Engineer Squad Vehicle fitted with a mine plow. Note how the weight of the plow has compressed the forward suspension. (photo US Army)

mortar and the M224 60mm mortar.

- M1129 Mortar Carrier - B is the second version of the mortar carrier and entered service in 2005. It is not fitted with the Remote Weapon Station and its rear hull has been modified to allow the 120mm RMS6L Mortar system to fire from the vehicle. The 120mm Recoiling Mortar System was designed by Soltam and fires the same conventional ammunition that is used by the M121 Mortar.
- M1130 Command Vehicle (CV) is a mobile command post that provides commanders with communication, data, and control functions to analyze and prepare information for combat missions. It is currently provided in five different configurations: Brigade level command, Battalion level command, RSTA Squadron command, S3 TAC command and Battalion S3 and Tactical Air Control Party USAF
- M1131 Fire Support Vehicle (FSV) is used by Fire Support Teams to plan, direct and execute indirect fire missions using a variety of conventional and precision guided ordnance. It is equipped with the Raytheon FS3 Fire Support Sensor System. This system can be used day or night.
- M1132 Engineer Squad Vehicle (ESV)
- M1133 Medical Evacuation Vehicle (MEV)
- M1134 Anti-Tank Guided Missile Vehicle (ATGM) is armed with the TOW missile system and is used to provide long-range antitank fire against armour beyond tank gun effective range. A GDLS remote TOW turret is mounted above the rear compartment of the vehicle and carries two launchers for TOW 2B missiles.
- M1135 Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, Reconnaissance Vehicle (NBC RV)

The Stryker family has been successful and is currently being used in Iraq and Afghanistan. Despite its success it still attracts some criticism that continues a decades-long ongoing debate concerning whether tracked or wheeled vehicles are more effective. Conventional tracks have superior off-road mobility, can pivot a vehicle in place, and are more resistant to battle damage but require more maintenance. Wheeled vehicles are easier to maintain, and have higher road speeds. The US Army chose the Stryker over tracked vehicles due to these attributes. ■



Top view of an M1126 fitted with Slat Armour.
(U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson)



Rear view of a Stryker fitted with Slat Armour.
(U.S. Army photo by Spc. Jeffery Sandstrum)



This Stryker is carrying all the current modifications including the Duke ECM antennas, Rhine IED detonator (fitted to the front of the vehicle), armour protection around the commander's hatch and RWS and armoured glass panels fitted around the hatches at the rear of the vehicle. It is also fitted with a full hull protection kit. This can be identified by the armour fitted to the bottom of the slat armour. (photo US Army)



Close up of the armoured glass panels added to an M1131 Fire Support Vehicle. Also shows the details of the Duke ECM antenna. (photo by Sgt Kimberly Johnson, US Army)

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STRYKER ONE

Andrew Judson adds stowage, figures and plenty of weathering to AFV Club's 1:35 scale M1126 Stryker ICV.



AFV Club's 1:35 scale M1126 was the first release in their growing Stryker family.



AFV Club's 1:35 scale M1126 Stryker has been sitting in my stash amongst many other variants of this great looking vehicle for quite some time now, so I decided that I should start building them and not let them collect any more dust.

Here is my first of many AFV Club Strykers - the M1126 Infantry Carrying Vehicle variant.

Appropriately, this was also AFV Club's first release in their

1:35 scale Stryker family. It is quite an impressive kit, with a lot of parts and fantastic detail throughout. I must say that I would describe some elements of this kit as over-engineered, with areas that I believe don't really need so many parts, but hey it's just an observation, not a complaint. In any case, the end result speaks for itself. What a beauty.

This basic vehicle was built out of the box, including the wheels and

the kit's vinyl tyres, as tempting as resin replacements were.

The equipment and stowage is a mixture of Legend, Black Dog and Hobby Fan. The figures are also from Hobby Fan. They are all top quality products.

I encountered no issues at all during construction. All went together very well indeed.

PAINTING

In a flash it was time for my favourite part, painting, which

started with a complete overall coat of Tamiya Acrylic XF-67 NATO Green. The base coat was allowed to dry and was followed by several coats of MIG Productions "Sin Industries" Ochre for Grey Sand filter, and then dried using an old hair dryer to speed things up a little.

Next I applied small dots of MIG Productions' 502 Abteilung Olive Green oil paint inside the different panels and then using a large flat brush with a hint of thinners,

spread this outwards blending it into the NATO Green. This was left to dry overnight and further weathering was applied employing pin washes in earth shades around all the bolts found over the entire kit. The same treatment was applied to the vehicle's upper surfaces to depict troop movement, although I made an effort not to make it too obvious.

Next came all that equipment and stowage. The rear section is a one-piece block glued into place and then bits and pieces placed around it to make it look more cluttered and not so static. This was then painted up in various shades of green and followed by a series of washes to finish it. I then painted all the various packs hanging from the vehicle's sides and in the stowage boxes and finally glued them into place.

The webbing over the top of the stowage is strips of lead foil that I cut up and then glued over the top, painting it with Tamiya XF-57 Buff and left to dry. I then pushed the webbing down with my finger, helping it conform to the irregular

shape of all the stowage and boxes. Lastly, a coat of Citadel Wash's Gryphon Sepia was brushed over the top of the straps.

FIGURES

Although the vehicle was starting to look the part now, it was still lacking something... figures. Going through my large collection of modern era figures, I found this great pair from Hobby Fan, Stryker Brigade AFV Crew. Perfect!

I wanted to have these guys in the Digicam uniform, but how the heck does one do this in 1:35 scale? Arghh - the mind boggles. I

started with a base colour of Tamiya XF-73 Dark Green lightened with some XF-57 Buff and then, using a very fine pointed brush and XF-57 Buff, applied very small random spotty patches, giving the appearance of digital camouflage pattern. Next, using Citadel Wash Devlin Mud, I pin-washed around uniform pockets, molle vests, and

other areas such as the AFV crew helmets, noting the camouflage cover commonly used with Stryker Brigade members. Flesh tones were applied also using Citadel paints' Tallern Flesh, Elf Flesh and Dwarf Flesh - love their paint names... he he. Details of the faces were bought out with a diluted mix ▶

Construction presented no problems.



The focus of this vehicle was its stowage and equipment. The big pack is a chunk of resin from Legends.



The kit's vinyl tyres were used, although it was tempting to replace them with resin items instead.



MIG Productions "Sin Industries" Ochre for Grey Sand filter was brushed over the base colour.



The weapons station is a model in its own right. The broken .50 cal gun barrel was repaired later.



Digicam was painted not only on the uniforms, but also on some of the packs and stowage.



The figures are from Hobby Fan - their 1:35 Stryker Brigade crew.



Digicam started with Tamiya XF-73 Dark Green lightened with some XF-57 Buff, and then, using a very fine pointed brush and XF-57 Buff, applying very small random spotty patches.



Tamiya acrylic XF-57 was sprayed over the wheels and lower surfaces at low pressure and built up. Citadel's Devlin Mud was then applied to the tyres to give the impression of wet areas of mud.



Chipping may be seen on the upper surfaces.

Last but not least was the antennae made from stretched sprue.



AFV Club's 1:35 scale M1126 Stryker was an absolute joy to work on.



The stowage and figures really bring the vehicle to life.



◀ of Devlin Mud.

The weapons station was next. This is a kit all by itself, and it looks fantastic. The main colour is that of the vehicle, but for the .50 cal I used NATO Black, a light wash of earth, and then a coat of black wash. The lenses in the camera and sighting systems were coated with X-19 Smoke and X-27 Clear Red. The latter was also used for all the lens blocks. This was then glued in place, followed by the crew figures, really bringing this vehicle to life.

FINISHING TOUCHES

The last step was the weathering phase of dried mud/dust over the wheels, tyres and sides of the vehicle. To achieve this I sprayed Tamiya acrylic XF-57 through my Badger Velocity Airbrush at low pressure and built the coats up until I had the desired effect. Devlin Mud was then applied to the tyres to give the impression of wet areas of mud, and the kit is pretty much done.

Last but not least was the antennae made from stretched sprue. I gave them a curved appearance based on photos that I had seen of other AFVs, but I later found this to be incorrect for current vehicles and have since replaced them with fine lengths of straight brass.

AFV Club's 1:35 scale M1126 Stryker was an absolute joy to work on, and I am already planning another, this time serving in Iraq with all that lovely Bar Armour. Variant? Still not decided.

Thanks to Brett Green for the photos and to all who gave advice throughout this project. Much appreciated. ■

Modelspec

AFV Club 1:35 scale M1126 Stryker, Infantry Carrier Vehicle Kit No. AF 35126

Accessories Used:

Legends various stowage sets
Black Dog Modern Packs
Hobby Fan Stryker Brigade figures

Paints and Finishing Products

Tamiya Acrylics: XF-67 NATO Green, XF-69 Nato Black, XF-49 Khaki, XF-57 Buff, XF-73 Dark Green
Mig Filter: Ochre for Grey Sand
502 Abtelling Wils: Olive Green
Citadel Washes: Greyphone Sepia, Devlin Mud
Citadel Paints: Tarnish Flesh, Elf Flesh, Dwarf Flesh

✓ Good fit; no problems during construction; excellent detail.

✗ Over-engineered in placed.

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Rating ●●●●●●●○

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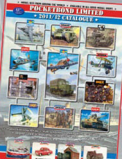
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The Churchill Mk.III in Russian hands towing a captured German flak trailer. How this came to be is just a footnote to the bigger picture of when these two giants faced off against each other.

COMRADE CHURCHILL

Michael Rinaldi employs all the weapons in his imposing weathering arsenal to finish AFV Club's 1:35 scale Churchill Mk.III in winter whitewash.

Those of you familiar with the Russian language publications Frontline Illustrations will know the frustration of not being able to read that language. They often tend to be valuable resources for those hard-to-research Eastern Front events and for years I've had this jewel of a book on the Churchill tank. Inside was a healthy selection of Churchill variants, and while the British usage photos are rather common and well known, it was the rare images of the tank in Russian service that really peaked my interest. You will also likely be as frustrated as I am at the small and rather poor image reproduction as well, but sometimes you just

have to roll with what you got. Well, "what we got" got a whole lot better when AFV Club presented our little community with a rather special, dare I say epic, Mk.III kit of this most endearing of tanks. I'd always planned this build around the rather ancient Tamiya Mk.VII offering plus some choice resin updates, but that lot quickly found itself on the model forum sales lists.

I can't pinpoint what it is or why, but I love this tank. Count me in on the guys that like the underdog subjects that really had no business being on a "modern" 1940's battlefield. I'm sure more than a few Russians felt this way too, especially in comparison to their rather formidable and

homegrown KV and T-34 series. The Lend Lease Churchill must have felt, or in the least, seemed oddly out of place. But pragmatic as they are, the Russians also knew they needed numbers and this tank fitted the bill. So if you just happen to have a copy of this particular Frontline book (more like a magazine really) on the Churchill (cover dated 6-2003) there is a gem of a photo on page 28 that shows two Mk.IIIs in Lend Lease service driving through a desolate Russian city. Unfortunately, the book is written entirely in Russian and I have no idea of the information provided in the caption. Even so, that photo was all the inspiration I needed for this build.

CONSTRUCTION

I am not going to delve too deeply into the actual construction because quite frankly it went as smoothly as any kit manufacturer could hope for. I had literally no issues and enjoyed the assembly of this kit immensely. My hat is off to AFV Club. They have delivered Dragon-like intricacy and detail, and combined it with Tamiya-like fit and finish. The kit really is that good. I have built a few AFV Club kits over time, and of all today's manufacturers, they have shown us the steadiest level of progress in the quality of their kits over the last few years. They truly deserve full credit for both subject and execution. This kit tops even their



“These early style tanks have so much character and, with more variants planned such as the historically important Dieppe kit, there are undoubtedly more good times ahead.”

impressive Centurion kit series.

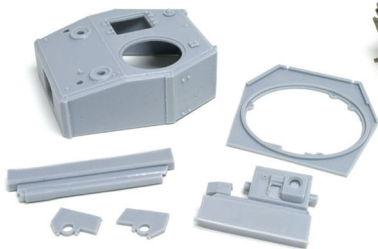
The only tricky aspect of the assembly was the side suspension and sprockets, but so it is on the real tank. However, I breezed through it and loved how it replicated the actual area. It was simply a matter of dry fit once before gluing to ensure I did it correctly. I chose to add the metal armour appliqué bolts and used AFV's own link-to-link track set as well (both available separately). I also chose not to use the fenders, so once I had the lower hull and tracks completed, I was literally almost done with the build. My only real attempt at creative modeling was to decorate the rear of the hull with empty fuel can brackets, and

I added a cable to the rear hitch release mechanism.

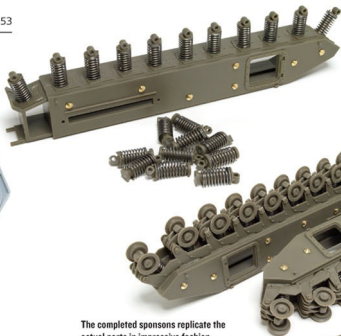
For my particular turret, I happened to have a sample casting of a rather special Mk.III turret that was originally intended for use as an aftermarket upgrade for this kit. Well not wanting to let it go to waste, I decided it would add a nice extra element to this model. All that was needed was to fit the plastic sights and hatch parts to it. Its strength is an even more refined outline (the kit turret is still excellent regardless), and it had a wonderfully subtle texture to the surface that would help in the later painting stages. But I also wanted to add something a bit more original and unique to this project... ►



► The Russians considered the Churchill a heavy tank, and these Guard's tanks were the inspiration for the model.



The resin turret update set was beautifully cast, and added just the right amount of extra detail.



The completed sprockets replicate the actual parts in impressive fashion.

◀ So searching around my stash, I found the ideal object of my desire. A wonderful little 2colour modulation ammo trailer is included inside the Dragon Flakpanzer I Ausf. A kit. The timeframe and theatre of the two models coincide nicely, so I plucked the trailer for use as a captured element to be pulled by the Churchill since it comes with its own towing hitch. I also liked the fact the different camouflage schemes would play well against each other and add a bit more colour to the monotone Churchill. And like the tank kit, it too built up perfectly. I simply followed the numbers and built it straight from the box, with no modifications required.

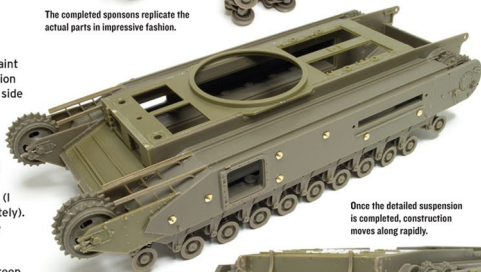
PAINTING TIME

Since this was a Lend Lease tank, the colours are actually British and not Russian. But honestly, that was of little consequence since both countries' main colours used basic dark green tones. I also knew ahead of time that I would ultimately be altering this during the painting stages because I wanted to impart a certain level of

colour modulation within the paint job. While most colour modulation paint jobs lean on the extreme side of things, I went for a much more subtle execution in the hopes to just break up the blocky nature of the shapes.

So let's dive in the deep end of painting this Churchill then, because there are many steps. (I will describe the trailer separately).

First up, I sprayed the entire model in Tamiya XF-69 NATO Black as my pre-shade tone. I followed this with XF-13 J.A. Green and modulated the gradations to keep the shadow areas darker. Once that step was complete, I made a series of lightened tones by adding in X-2 Gloss White, XF-3 Yellow, and XF-21 Sky to the XF-13 and continued to spray the lighter tones until I was happy. My overriding goal was to keep the transition areas as soft and natural as possible within the colour modulation style. Also note, the use of the Gloss White was intentional to impart a semi-gloss finish, thus avoiding the need for an extra varnish layer on this one.



Once the detailed suspension is completed, construction moves along rapidly.

Excellent use of superb moulds, combined with the kit's PE parts, provide a high level detail all around as shown here on the rear hull area.



I also decided to use AFV Club's metal bolt detail set, and their excellent link-to-link track set which, as expected, fit perfectly.



The completed model is now ready for paint. Overall the build went as smoothly as any modern kit should. The Churchill kits may well be AFV Club's best effort. Very little is left unaddressed.





I prepare all of my models with Mr. Surfacer 1200. I find it has superior qualities and is extremely easy to apply with near foolproof results.



I decided to give this model a basecoat of Colour Modulation, so my first colour applied is Tamiya's NATO Black.

Next up were the markings. I used a combination of the kit decals and some rather rare MB Models dry-transfers. For the lower hull sides, the Lend Lease tanks were sent over in their original factory markings, so I used the kit decals for these. While not a 100% accurate tank number, it worked for my purposes. Next, in combination with some hairspray technique, I used Eduard's Kursk numbers spray mask and lightly sprayed an old number on the turret sides and wore those off with a little water and a brush to create a heavily faded look. And then on top of them, I added the large Russian turret numbers via dry transfers and subsequently chipped those with the tip of my knife. Unfortunately, my original spray numbers were a bit too light and they are all but invisible on the final model. Why? Well it was now time for a bit of whitewash love. See, I looked at it this way: Russian Front = winter whitewash. I can't help it. It's a disease.

So without much additional thought, I grabbed the can of hairspray and fired away two even layers. Once dry, I thinned some Tamiya XF-2 White with water and sprayed a light patchy pattern over the model, which I then scrubbed away with water and a stiff brush, including a toothpick to add some scratches. After this step, I painted the smaller details like the tools and exhaust, and then proceeded with the filter step and some pin washes. For some additional chipping around the turret and hatch edges I used Tamiya Lacquer Thinner and gently rubbed away the outer layers of paint until the dark base layers shown through. I finished this round of work off by adding graphite to the upper sponson areas because this was essentially worn to bare metal by the tracks. ▶



The gradation process starts with J.A. Green. The airbrushing is focused on maintaining the darker colours down lower and lighter colours up top.



Another round of lighter tones is applied as described in the text. The key to successful application is the blending of tones. For me, I prefer the transitions to be as seamless as possible.



From above the model strikes a nice range of shades without looking too artificial.

Markings are applied and then two even coats of hairspray in preparation for the next step.



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Admittedly one of my favorite techniques, I decided to add a distressed layer of whitewash to the model straying a bit from the ref. photo.



This is followed by the proven technique of scrubbing and scratching the white via a water application to dissolve the hairspray underneath, thus releasing the white from the model.



Details are next, and the exhaust is treated to the superb Lifecolor Rust colour set.



Working along, the pin wash is applied to enhance the moulded-on details and give some life to the model.



The obligatory filter stage is next. Note the tones are rather muted at this stage, as going too dark too soon can overwhelm the model. I like to build up the tones in a controlled manner.

Although a bit risky, I use lacquer thinner on a nearly dry brush and rub some of the edges to remove paint down to the lower, darker levels. This creates a worn out, soft chipping effect.



WEATHERING

Around this point in the life of the build, the model sat for a while because I worked on some other projects. I would come back to it and spend a little time here and there, and as these things go, I decided I wanted to achieve more in certain areas. By this I mean I had spent time and added pigments to dirty up the model, but in the process it lost a lot of the white effects, and felt after staring at it for a few months that I wanted - no needed - the whitewash to come back. The look just wasn't what I was after, so this meant I had to repeat a few steps to get it back. Now before you cringe, this was actually a rather good thing for the simple reason the model would gain tons of depth in the process. It would impart a lot more character this way too, so I was actually enthusiastic about it all knowing the end result would be worth it.

I started by repeating the whitewash-hairspray step to add more white opacity to the model. (Yes, right over the pigments.) After this step, I went in with some serious mapping, which is a great step to pair with the hairspray technique since it adds a lot of additional interest to the paint job. The model was finally starting to look more along the lines of my original intent.

Now I could revisit the pigments and really give it the look of a tough Soviet fighter. To me this is key element about building models for certain theatres, and I spent a lot of time working the pigments along the vast vertical sides of the sponsons to create layers of texture and runoff from the tracks above. My primary application method for pigments ▶

For the pigments, I start by laying the model on its side, apply them dry, then hit them with a fixing agent to set them in place.



Churchills tend to get very dirty, very fast when their fenders are absent, so I made sure I covered the hull properly.



Sometimes when working on a model, the feeling isn't quite right, and my efforts to this point were of that thought. So, I felt another round of whitewash was necessary to give the model more interest and depth. I repeated the previous hairspray and white layer process.



Once it was chipped again, I proceeded to add some mapping to add more variations of opacity within the whitewash.

was to turn the relevant area of the model horizontal, add the pigments dry to the surface exactly where I want them, then carefully applied Tamiya X-20A thinner with a brush utilising capillary action to allow it to soak into the pigments. Once dry, this sets them in place, and in some areas I would drag the brush down vertically while still wet to give it the look seen along the sides of the tank.

With this transformation done, I turned my attention to the washes and oils in an effort to finalise the details like the hatches, part

lines and in particular, the large engine deck. In fact, I made good use out of the newly released AK Interactive Track Wash because I loved the dark red brown/blackish colour that worked perfectly for this model. Because so much work was done with the whitewash, pigments, and pin washes I kept my use of oils to a minimum, there was not much left to do honestly. I concentrated on the crew areas and worked in darker colours around their edges to give the necessary level of contrast between the high worn areas and the dusty, dirty, grimy areas.



With the whitewash more to my liking, I could proceed again with the pigments.



As before, I began adding them down low and worked my way around the hull.



The model sat at the previous stage for some months as I worked on other projects. When I returned, I felt that I really had to get after the pigments to make it sing.



I switched up my tones to with lighter and greyer shades of earth pigments and pulled out all the stops. The slab sides are so ideal to get a little crazy and have fun with them. I find it fitting for a Russian tank to be so envisioned.



The superb AFV Club tracks assembled and ready to paint.



I first "primed" the tracks with a dark gray-brown colour simply made and called Track Steel. Anything close will work great.



Then I sponged on random layers of tan, pale rust, and dark rust colours to create the right look for the tracks.



The tracks were finished off with the same final pigment mixture I used on the hull, and I could then mount them to the model for the final time.



At this stage, the tank is largely finished. I would turn my attention to finishing the captured Flak trailer set in tow.

This is the most interesting angle in my opinion. So much is happening with the surface details, exposed tracks, exhaust, etc. It was a real joy to paint.



TRACKS & TRAILER

For the tracks, I first sprayed a dark brown-grey colour for the base, and then switched to a sponge and added random layers of Lifecolor Sand, Earth and Rust tones. Using the sponge gives them that gritty spotty look I love and once dried, I added a layer of the same pigments to tie them into the model. Graphite was then used to hit the high wear spots along the track edges and cleats, after which I mounted them to the model for the final time.

Now I could turn my full attention to the captured ammo trailer. I wanted it to look as different to the tank as I could, within reason. I first painted the entire assembly red primer, and then a layer hairspray that was quickly followed with a proper dark yellow base and green camouflage common to the Kursk battle schemes. Note that I chose not to use colour modulation on the trailer, again in an effort to suggest that it was not from the same stock as the tank. All of this was chipped and scratched per the usual method. Afterwards I painted the dark metal chips by hand, and then the tyres. I followed this with the familiar filter and pin wash steps, and lastly wrapped it up with some of the same pigment work as applied to the Churchill. Some minor oil paint work was done just to give the final touches before attaching it to the towing hitch readied for the final photo shoot.

CONCLUSION

This was a great project inspired by that "just right" photo in an odd reference book I kept on the shelf for just this occasion. With the stellar release of AFV Club's superb 1:35 scale Churchill kits we now have the proper platform to indulge ourselves with these fascinating subjects. These early style tanks have so much character and, with more variants planned such as the historically important Dieppe kit, there are undoubtedly more good times ahead. ■

Modelspec

AFV Club Churchill Mk. III Kit No. AF 35153

Accessories Used:

2 cm ammo trailer from Dragon's Flakpanzer I Ausf. A, (Kit No. 6220), MB Models dry-brushers, Eduard Kursk Number Stencils

Paints and Finishing Products

Tamiya Acrylics: X-2 White; X-20A Thinner; XF-1 Flat Black; XF-2 Flat White; XF-3 Flat Yellow; XF-5 Flat Green; XF-13 J.A. Green; XF-21 Sky; XF-69 NATO Black. Tamiya Lacquer Thinner; Lifecolor Acrylics - various, AK Interactive Track Wash, Vallejo Model Colour Acrylics - various, MIG Productions: Neutral Wash; Dark Wash; Sin Industries' Fillers, Mr Surfacers 1200. Ties Two Hairspray.

- ✓ Excellent detail; almost flawless fit; a beautiful base for weathering and extra detailing.
- ✗ None worth mentioning.

Available from

AFV Club is distributed in the UK by Pocketbond. Dragon kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net

Rating ●●●●●●●●



The assembled Dragon 2 cm Flak is a gem of a little in itself. Crisp detail and excellent fit, nothing is really needed to enhance it other than the paintjob.

I played this one different to the Churchill. I went strictly German, and started with a red primer underlay.



Then I add some filters, and here I add a darker filter over some of the frame to give a slight variation in tone to the yellow base.

I add a subtle layer of dry brushing using NATO Black, a great scale colour for metal and such.



I complete the painting using my Oil Paint Rendering technique of subtly enhancing the existing paintwork. This step adds the final layers of depth and discolourations to the surface, giving the model more life.





I hair spray that and then spray the light tan yellow basecoat. Guards tanks fought at Kursk so my time frame on this piece is late '43.

I follow this with some light chipping for effect.



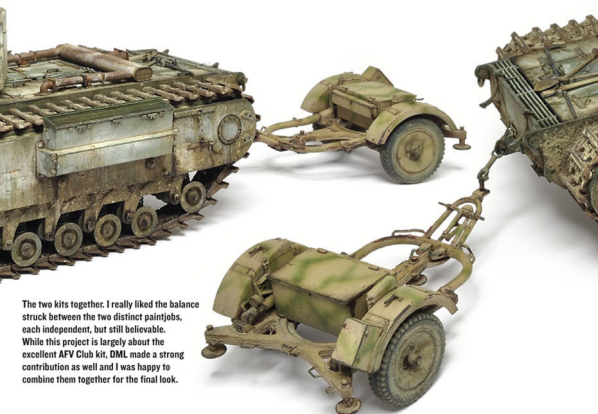
Next is the green camouflage, sprayed very lightly. I know the sequence seems odd, but I felt that it needed more colour so I just added it on top very carefully.

Next is the dark pin wash. This helps bring out the detail and tie it all together.



The trailer is finished with the painting and ready for the final step of pigments.

I add just enough pigments to give the piece a well-used look. The trailer is now ready to find its way to its new owners behind the Churchill.



The two kits together. I really liked the balance struck between the two distinct paintjobs, each independent, but still believable. While this project is largely about the excellent AFV Club kit, DML made a strong contribution as well and I was happy to combine them together for the final look.



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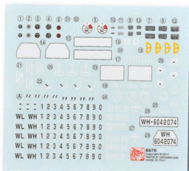
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DEMAG FLAK

Ross Ferro examines Dragon's new-tool 1:35 scale Sd.Kfz.10 half-track with 2cm Flak 38.

Until recently, the scale model representation of the venerable Sd.Kfz.10 has been limited to some older vintage kit releases, and these are beginning to show their age. Enter the Dragon kit, and we can immediately appreciate how far plastic kit production has evolved.

The kit box is adorned with stunning art by Ron Volstad. For me, the box art is always a key to capturing my imagination and reducing my bank balance correspondingly. There are over 780 plastic parts inside, moulded in light grey and clear with two frets of photo etch and the ever consistent bag of "Magic Tracks" links.

There are 24 steps to construction of the kit and you will need to pay close attention to what is going where as there can be quite a few parts needing to be sourced, fitted and glued in each of the steps, with some steps offering alternate options. The instruction sheet also includes the painting and decal guide for no less than six options.

Typically, construction begins with the lower hull and running gear, transmission and engine. You will need to pay attention to where everything is going as Dragon instructions tend to be very busy and as always check, test fit and check again before gluing. Steps

1 & 2 cover the lower hull and running gear and the front wheels come as either five separate sections needing to be sandwiched together or two part tyres split down the middle. Either way, the road wheels will look nice or nicer! The lower hull tub is very nicely detailed and includes the recessed holes for the separate torsion bar running gear arms - all nice detail touches. The road wheels themselves are also nicely done.

The engine, transmission, firewall, dashboard vehicle controls and running gear fitting are covered in steps 3 through 8. Detail on the transmission looks great with lots of finely moulded parts to be added whereas detail on the engine is very basic by comparison. The three separate sub assemblies of engine, dashboard, firewall and transmission all come together in step 8 making for one very comprehensively detailed lower hull tub. The front wheels and running gear finish off the remainder of the detail and you can now see the half-track beginning to take shape.

The upper hull and rear platform construction take place over steps 9 through 15. The rear cargo bed is built up from both plastic parts and very nicely detailed photoetch mesh for the cargo bed side walls in steps 9 & 10. The front of the half-track also receives attention with the fitting of all the additional parts such as toolboxes, windscreen and driving lights all very nicely moulded in plastic. What caught my eye were the two part engine top hood covers and front engine grill with the detailed side and upper cooling louvers and front cooling grill moulded very finely and hollowed out allowing you to see through to the engine compartment.

The construction of the Flak 38 gun platform is covered in steps 16 through to 23 and the detail is again very well executed. You are presented with some options along the way and care must be taken to ensure that the correct parts are fitted depending on which wheel elevation you wish to display the gun barrel. In terms of the barrel, someone at Dragon may have been having an off day confused as the kit supplied part on sprue J: is marked as KwK 38 rather than the longer barrelled Flak 38 as advertised so you may have to source an alternate option if this bothers you. There are a number of aftermarket Flak 38 barrels available. The gun shields are on the chunky side and may have benefitted from Dragons "Razor Thin" technology or could be replaced with photo etch if you feel need. Photo-etch is supplied with a few options to build the empty shell basket and care, but patience and dexterity will be required.

In step 24, the completed gun mount as well as some final parts are attached to the rear cargo bed. The final step is construction of the "Magic Tracks". These are quite small and well detailed with separate bags of links and track pads supplied. Painting and markings for six separate vehicles are covered on the final page of the instructions.

In summary, this is a very nicely produced kit and with careful attention to construction sequences including the various options it will build into a very nice representation of the Sd.Kfz.10/5.

Highly Recommended. ■

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample
www.hobbyco.net



The one-piece lower hull will speed assembly in this area.



Check out the beautifully fine open vents in the hood panels.



Tyres are injection moulded plastic.



Engine detail is included.



The platform for the 2cm Flak 38 gun.



Individual and handed Magic Tracks are included.



A feast of photo-etch.



Clear parts include the windscreen and headlight lenses.



Well-packaged pressed brass seats.

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This Young Miniatures bust is entirely made of resin.



After Italy capitulated, the Germans had access to their camouflage material. It was used to make jackets, trousers, hats, shelter quarters etc. The anorak was painted to represent this interesting Italian camouflage material.



Italian camouflage fabric has a definite texture and weave to it. You can see lighter lines of fabric running through the piece. Vertical and horizontal lines were carefully brushed onto the painted anorak to replicate this texture.



ARDENNES MACHINE GUNNER

Matt Wellhouser takes on Young Miniatures' big 1:10 scale "Waffen SS MG42 Gunner, Ardennes, 1944".

This is one mean looking dude!

Young Miniatures' big 1:10 scale Waffen SS MG 42 Gunner, Ardennes, 1944, is made up from 28 parts and was sculpted by Young B Song, otherwise known as Ebroin.

The actual script was taken from the movie *Inglorious Basterds*. The piece depicts a SS Machine Gunner in the Ardennes during the late 1944 time period. Ebroin from Young Miniatures seems to like to copy famous celebrities for his facial characters.

The bust is entirely made of resin. It has virtually no mould seams or flash. Clean up was a snap and test fitting of the parts commenced. All the Young Miniature busts I have assembled prior to this one have fitted like a dream. This one, however, took a little more work. The right arm had to be carved a little on the shoulder joint to make a tight fit. Some A & B putty was used to fill in a small gap at the bottom of the arm to torso joint. The left arm was a little tricky. The arm, hand and MG 42 all have to align so that the gun rests on the proper spot on the left shoulder. On top of this, the sling is in two parts and has to line up with the barrel and butt

stock. Whew! To make life simple, I assembled the gun first. This took some time. All the parts fit great, and Young supplies an illustrated instruction sheet to help with parts placement and identification.

With the gun ready to go, I used Blu-Tack to hold all the parts temporarily in position. This allowed me to see any major fit issues and make adjustments. There were no fit problems that posed any trouble. Once I had the alignment sorted out (make sure you continue to test fit), I marked the position of the left arm. The arm was then glued to the torso. I use two-part epoxy glue for this. For additional security I also drilled a small hole through the top of each arm into the shoulder and inserted a short length of brass rod. The rod was stuffed into the hole so the end was about .020" below the surface, then I filled the hole with A & B putty. ACC and epoxy degrade over time, and I just like knowing that the joints are strong.

The basic torso was assembled with the left and right arms, the MG cleaning/tool kit and pistol holster. I drilled a 1/4" hole on the bottom of the torso to accept a section of brass rod. This was used to hold the model during painting and ultimately attach it to the base. The finished rod was painted black- as ►



The fur of the anorak was undercoated with a mix of Black, English Uniform and Chocolate Brown (all Vallejo).



The tunic was painted with a mix of German Uniform 920 and German Field Grey 830.



Initial highlights for the fur comprised German Camouflage Beige, Khaki, and a little Yellow Ochre.



Tamiya's XF-21 Flat Base was added to the mix. The same combination was used on the back.

was the underside of the bust.

The figure is depicted wearing a fur-lined anorak. These were issued to troops working in cold climates. The anorak exterior can be a field grey material, or Italian camouflage. After Italy capitulated, the Germans had access to their camouflage material. It was used to make jackets, trousers, hats, shelter quarters - you name it. Italian camouflage was very common with SS troops. You can look at numerous references and see it used as I previously described. The base colour varies from a medium to dark brown; some shades I have seen had a red brown colour. Then there are splottches (technical term) of a medium olive and an ochre yellow. The interior of the coat has two types of fur - usually rabbit and wool. I decided to

go with the "standard" Italian camouflage theme.

I have listed the Vallejo colours used for the coat and tunic in the Modelspec at the end of the article. I added a small drop of Tamiya Flat Base XF-21 to each colour mix. This gives a dead flat finish to the Vallejo paint. The key to painting a piece this big is to keep your paint thin. It is far easier to work with a nice thinned paint than stuff straight from the bottle. I made several passes on each colour area. I added many shadows and highlights to each colour as I progressed. I like to add a little darker shade to the edges of each colour splotch. This makes the colour "pop out" and contrast a little with the colour next to it.

Now for insanity. Looking at my sample of Italian Camouflage, I noticed that the fabric has a

definite texture and weave to it. You can see lighter lines of fabric running through the piece. I suppose it's like seeing the wear on denim jeans. I took my trusty Winsor & Newton Series 7 (O) brush and, using very diluted 821 German Camouflage Beige, I commenced to paint vertical and horizontal lines into the fabric to replicate the texture.

This operation took quite a while. You have to proceed very carefully and deliberately. Too much and it looks as if you dragged your paintbrush across the model by accident. Not enough and it is not visible. After many hours of going cross-eyed, it finally seemed to deliver the effect I was after. All of the seam lines and stitching were darkened up with diluted Vallejo Chocolate Brown and Winsor & Newton Sepia watercolour.

I then began painting the fur. This was undercoated with a mix of Black, English Uniform and Chocolate Brown (all Vallejo). I also added the XF-21 Flat Base to the mix. Once dry, I worked on bringing up highlights.

German

Camouflage Beige, Khaki, and a little Yellow Ochre were used for this. As I got towards the top of the coat, I added more German Camouflage Beige to lighten it up. I tried to vary the shade and intensity of the colour to look like fur. For the fur that represents wool (nearest the chest), I added more German Camouflage Beige as well as Iraqi Sand 819.

The tunic was painted with a mix of German Uniform 920 and German Field Grey 830. I highlighted the base colour with Sunny Skintone and shaded with Black. The tunic was really straightforward. You can use just about any colour to paint the tunic as long as it is grey, brown grey or green grey. German uniforms later in the war were more brownish grey - almost an OD shade. In retrospect, I think a late-war soldier's tunic would be closer to a darker brown grey shade than the one I used. Early war uniforms were more of a light green-grey shade.

I like to use Citadel Metallic paints for the metal awards, buttons and buckles. This paint has a really nice grain to it, and can be mixed with Vallejo colours to shade. On this figure I used Boltgun Metal and shaded it with black, brown and other colours depending on the feature I was painting. The tunic buttons are a pebbly aluminium colour, so I mixed some grey with the Boltgun Metal.

All the leather items - waist belt, machine gun tool kit, pistol holster, sling, etc. - were painted by undercoating with Black. Various amounts of Orange Brown, Burnt Umber, SS Camouflage Medium Brown, Sunny Skintone and Black were then mixed to weather the items. I used different amounts of each colour to vary the intensity and shade of



For the fur that represents wool (nearest the chest), more German Camouflage Beige was added, as well as Iraqi Sand 819.



The eyes were painted an off-white colour for the basic eyeball, usually Basic Skintone with Off White added. Not too much white though, or he will look pop-eyed!



This is an old Warriors 1:9 scale helmet as a photo example for this article. A mix of Vallejo 992 Neutral Grey and 825 Camo. Pale Violet Brown mixed with Tamiya Flat Base was used as the base coat. 941 Burnt Umber was highly diluted and added to the edges of the helmet cover and to darken the folds. Once dry, I then started painting the orange/ yellow "blobs". I used Vallejo 929 Light Brown and 877 Gold Brown. Once I was happy with the basic painting, I went back and deepen the shadows and edges with black. Once dry, I started the insanity of the fabric texture - same as on the coat.

the particular item. Keep the paint real thin like a glaze, and don't be afraid to experiment with different colours. I like to edge the leather with straight up Orange Brown. Sometimes I will add a little Iraqi Sand to the mix. This simulated the unfinished edge of the leather. Look at reference pictures and you'll quickly get the idea here.

On to the face and hand (one hand - the other has a glove on it). Unless noted, all of the colours are Vallejo Model Colour. I started by painting the eyes. I began with an off-white colour for the basic eyeball, usually Basic Skintone with Off White added. Not too much white or he will look pop-eyed. Then I added the cornea coloured part of the eye. I start with black, and then add a medium brown colour. I try to keep brown eyes light, because it is easy to turn them black with too dark of a colour. The edge of the cornea has a darker edge. Then, working towards the centre I added lighter colour. Then black for the pupil. Keep the paint thin so it's easy to work with. I edged the eye with a bit of Cadmium Red to simulate the fleshy part. When I was done I coated the eyes with Future floor polish. I added a very small amount of diluted flat red flowed into the eye as a wash to give him a little red in the eye so to speak.

My basic mix is all Vallejo Model Colour paint: Brown Sand Base, Basic Skintone, and Burnt Cadmium Red. The face is base coated with Brown Sand then highlights are added. I added small amounts of Basic Skintone to the base and bring up the highlights. Each coat is thin - 80% water - and I add more water as I get a lighter shade. Before I hit my final highlight, I start on the shadows. I add Burnt Cadmium Red to the base colour and work on the shadows. Working with acrylics means you constantly go back and forth and add mid tones, highlights, shadows, to cover the transitions. Because acrylics do not blend like oil colours, you have to create a transition area between shadows, highlights and base colours with a



The last touch was to dust the cover with some dirt coloured pigments.



Having a few photos of an actual cover to use as an example is a great help here.



The completed helmet. It is not the one used on the figure, but the steps to obtain the results are identical.



The figure is approaching completion now. Note that the head has been test-fitted, but he is still awaiting his hands and the machine gun.



All the parts were carefully aligned prior to painting to ensure a perfect fit at this late stage.

light mid tone that disguises any "line" between the shades. I add black to the Burnt Cadmium Red to create the deepest shadows. These are usually under the chin, under the brow and under the nose. A lighter shadow with black mixed in - heavily diluted simulates the five o'clock shadow.

The helmet cover was painted much like the coat. Since I did

not take too many in-progress pictures of these steps, I used an old Warriors 1:9 scale helmet as a photo example for this article. I started with a mix of Vallejo 992 Neutral Grey and 825 Camo. Pale Violet Brown mixed with Tamiya Flat Base as a base coat. I gave the helmet two coats. I then used 941 Burnt Umber highly diluted to edge all areas of the helmet cover

and to darken the folds. Once dry, I then started painting the orange/ yellow "blobs". I used Vallejo 929 Light Brown and 877 Gold Brown. I kept the paint very thin for all of these steps. I mixed in a very small amount of Flat Base with all colours - it keeps the paint dead flat and helps give the paint a weathered look. Once I completed the orange/yellow areas, I moved ▶

on to the darker brown/ black colours. I usually try to pick areas beneath folds for the darker camouflage colours, and lighter ones on the top of the folds. It helps reduce the tedious shadows and highlight that I would have to add later.

Once I was happy with the basic painting, I went back and deepened the shadows and edges with black. I also edged the seams and edges of the fabric with German Camouflage Beige or Iraqi Sand. This helped define the shape and features of the fabric. A diluted wash of the base colour was next.

It was 90% water and 10% paint. Keep it thin - it is easy to go too heavy and ruin your work. Once dry, I started the insanity of the fabric texture - same as on the coat. Use a picture of a real helmet cover to give you ideas on which way the fabric texture runs. Next, I painted the edges of the colour in a green/ spring colour. This is where the reverse side of the cover shows up (they are two sided - spring and fall). Now I painted the details - cover clips (blackened metal) and any exposed areas of the helmet.

The last touch was to dust the

cover with some dirt coloured pigments. Having a few photos of an actual cover to use as an example is a great help here. There are many books on the subject as well as on-line photos.

Final assembly consisted of gluing the machine gun to the figure, and making sure all the previous setup locations lined up. Then I added the left hand to match the position of the bipod legs. The right hand was finished (using the same techniques as painting the face) and glued into place.

Finally, the head and helmet was added with the chinstrap. The chinstraps (as was the gun sling) were heated with a hairdryer and fixed into position.

BOY WHAT A FIGURE!

If you enjoy painting camouflage, this one is for you. Of course there are many options on how you can paint the figure - that gives some room for creativity. I met the sculptor of the piece, Youn Song (Ebroin), and he actually painted his version with a field grey / green coat, and it was a great looking piece.

Break out the paints and brushes - this one is a winner! ■

Modelscape

Young Miniatures 1:10 scale SS Machine Gunner Bust
Kit No. YM1822

Paints Used

Italian Camouflage Coat Colours - All Vallejo Colours-Tamiya Flat Base XF-21 added to the colour mixes.

Green Areas:

Base: Russian Green 894 • German Field Grey 830

Shadow: Base • SS Camouflage Black Brown 822

Highlight: Base • German Yellow 806

Brown Areas:

Base: Leather Brown 871 • Mahogany Sand 846

Shadow: Base • SS Camouflage Black Brown 822 •

Black 850

Highlight: Base • Green Ochre 914 • Orange Brown 981

Yellow Areas:

Base: Dark Yellow 978 with just a small amount of

German Field Grey 830

Shadow: Add More Field Grey

Highlight: Dark Yellow 978

Fabric Texture:

Khaki 880 and German Camouflage Beige 821

✓ Fantastic sculpting: virtually no mould seams or flash; high quality moulding; many possibilities for different uniform finishes.

✗ Some tricky alignment.

Available from

Young Miniatures products may be seen on their website www.young-miniatures.com

Rating ●●●●●●●●○



The basic face mix is all Vallejo Model Colour paint: Brown Sand Base, Basic Skintone, and Burnt Cadmium Red, then highlights are added.



Small amounts of Basic Skintone were added to the base to bring up the highlights.



Final assembly consisted of gluing the machine gun to the figure, and making sure all the previous setup locations lined up.



The right hand was finished (using the same techniques as painting the face) and glued into place.

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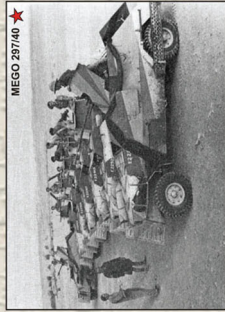
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★ **MEGO 297/40** (22 Nov 40)
Wasting of paint: new arrangements, all vehicles painted one basic colour BSC 61 and two contrasting colours.

BSC 61 Light Stone	BSC 23 Slate Grey	BSC 34 Dark Grey	BSC 61 Light Stone	BSC 49 Dark Brown
-----------------------	----------------------	---------------------	-----------------------	----------------------

Sudan
(Cancelled by MEGO 172/41)

(Public Domain Photo)



❓ ACI 1559/41



CAMO CORNER

- British Camouflage Timeline Part One by William Marshall

ACI 2202/41

Disruptive painting of canvas covers and hoods with SCC 1A and SCC 14 and SCC 2

Top and dark side pattern

Vehicle Body

SCC 1A




SCC 14

SCC 2

Cancelled by ACI 1150/42




ACI 1559/41
Khaki Green No 3 and Dark Tarmac No 4
damages canvas hoods - recommended
paints to be used:

Hood top and dark side pattern

	Vehicle Body		Dark Tarmac
			Khaki Green
			HA 6179 SCC 14
			HA 6188 SCC 1A

Cancelled by ACI 2202/41

MTP 46
Camouflage patterns and paint colours:
Khaki Green with SCC 1A or SCC 2.

	OR		AND	
Khaki Green		SCC 1A		SCC 2

MTP 46, Part 4A
Counter shading

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
MTP 46/41 👉	★ AIF MEGO 43/41 07/02/41	★ AIF Mech Instr 06/03/41			ACI 1559/41 👉					✳ Letter 30 Corps 07 Nov 41	★ MEGO 1272/41 05 Dec 41
							👉				

★ **MEGO 1272/41** (05/12/41)

Change in basic colour, choice of BSC 61 or BSC 64 with disruptive colours BSC 28 and 34



BSC 61 MEC 23	OR	BSC 64 Portland MEC 11	AND	BSC 34 Silver Grey (Optional for Cindis to choose one additional colour)	BSC 34 Blue
------------------	----	------------------------------	-----	---	----------------

Note: First mention of ME standard theatre colours (MEC) and their numbers, also known as the sub-Caunter scheme

★ **A.I.F. Mech Instr 1-70**

All vehicles in Egypt are to be painted one basic colour BSC 61 and two contrasting colours in accordance with Cam Chart C.11.

Egypt

		
Light Stone	BSC 28 Silver Grey	BSC 34 Slate

* First Mention of BSC 34 as New Service Colour*

★ **LETTER 30 CORPS**
Intro RAC white/red/white
flash for all armoured
vehicles - 07 Nov 41.

? MTP 10/41 (India)
Camouflage with BSC 64,
BSC 28 and BSC 34 with drawings



(Public Domain Photo)

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Photo: Author)

(Public Domain Photo)



MTF 46

★ CAM NOTES - CANADA

Concealment of transport - UK scheme
Khaki Green No 3 or SCC 2 with SCC 1a
or SCC14



★ **GO 86/42**
Markings for Speed Limit
intro dd 16 Jan 42.

★ **ACI 279/42**
Pamphlet "Vehicle Markings -
1942" dd 02 Dec 42 approved.

★ **Standard Camouflage Colours (SCC)**
- Sept 1942
New colours for military camouflage
purposes.

1942	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
★ GO 86/42 Notes 19 Jan 42	★ Letter Adv HQ 8 Army 13 Jan 42			★ ME STDG Orders 1942		★ Letter Main HQ 1 SA Div 08 Jun 42	★ MEGO 1043/42 08 Jul 42	★ Letter HQ 1 SA Div 02 Aug 42	★ SCC Colours	★ Letter CRME 42497 19 Oct 42		★ ACI 279/42 02 Dec 42

★ **Letter Adv HQ 8 Army**
White St Andrews cross
adopted as air ID for all
vehicles - 13 Jan 42.

★ **ME Standing Orders Apr 43**
Policy for painting vehicles and
equipment - continued use of
Desert Pink and Blue Black

★ **MEGO 1043/42**
Intro WD numbers for all
for all vehicles - 08 Jul 42.

★ **Letter Main HQ 1 SA Div**
Cancels RAC white/red/white
marking.

★ **Letter** 02 Aug 42
HQ 1 SA Div
RAF roundel adopted as air
ID for all vehicles



★ **MEGO 1650/42**
Introduction of "Desert Pink ZI" as camouflage colour.
Basic Colour
Desert Pink
Alternative Orange Colour
Dark
Black
State
(Public Domain Photo)



★ **Letter CRME 42497**
Instruction on Cam painting
for AFVs, jeeps & trucks -
Diagrams also included

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CAMO CORNER

- British Camouflage Timeline Part One by William Marshall



(Photo Author)

1943

United Kingdom

Italy

★ **ACI 1496/43**
War equipment and vehicles to be painted in accordance to MTP 46 - Part 4A and Cam Chart 15, except for staff cars. Three types foliage, dapple (mickey mouse) and dry-brush.

Normal surfaces SCC 2

Canvas/hoods SCC 2

Dark Patterning OR SCC 14

SCC 1A

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
			Letter 42479 10 Apr 43 ★ Letter 13 Corps 23 Apr 43	ACI 693/43 ★			Op Inst 18/43 ★	ACI 1496/43 ★			

★ **Letter 42479/43** (10 Apr 43)
Cancelled MEGO 1650/42 and issues new designs for Grant, Sherman and Crusader AFVs illustrated by photos.
Cancels MEGO 1650/42

★ **Letter 13 Corps** (23 Apr 43)
130/13/G Cam issued change in colour to Light Mud and Blue Black. MEGO 1650 policy valid. Cancels all design and issues new drawings (A181-197).
Cancels MEGO 1650 drawings only

★ **ACI 693/43**
MEF colour change to Light Mud and Blue Black - with drawings

Light Mud

Blue Black

Cancels MEGO 1650/42

★ **HQ 15 Army Gp Op Instr 18/43** 19 Aug 43
White star/roundel and Red/White/Red flash authorised - Italy



(Public Domain Photo)

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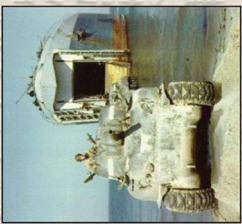
1944

1945

★ **TD 32866/44**^{17 Nov 44}
Cam painting of M4 17 pdr.

★ **ACI 1642/44**^{16 Dec 44}
Cancels MTP 46, Part IV A.

FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
MEGO 115/44 4 Feb 44 ★		ACI 533/44 12 Apr 44 ★	MEGO 570/44 26 May 44 ★	RAF Letter 15 Jun 44 ★	AF HQ Letter 12 Jul 44 ★	ACI 1100/44 12 Aug 44 ★	MEGO 201/44 MEGO201/45 12 Sep 45		TD 32856 17 Nov 44 ★	ACI 1642/44 16 Dec 44 ★



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Summary of Camouflage & Markings

Diagram Patterns Issued

MTP 20/39 - Issued 1939 - Tank & Truck (G3/G4).
MTP 10/41 (India) - Issued 1941 - Counter schemes
MTP 46, Part 4A - early 1941 - Patterns KG/SCC/IA/SCC2
CREME 42497 - 17/9 Oct 1942 - DP/IBB.
Let 42479 - 23 Apr 43 - LM/IBB - photo's.
ACI 1436 - Sep 1943? - Mickey Mouse.

Colours used in UK

Pre 1940 - Deep Bronze Green as per Spec C155A.
1930 - Khaki green G3 Dark/Green G4 as per MTP 20/39.
1941 (Feb) - Khaki Green or SCC1a with SCC2 as per MTP 46.
1941 (Jun) - Khaki Green No 3 and dark Tarmac No 4. as per ACI 1559/41.
1941 (Nov) - SCC2.
1944 - SCC 15 Olive Drab until wars end.

Colours used in the Middle East

1938 - BSC 62 Middle Stone.
1939 - BSC 62 and Dark Sand.
1940 (22 Nov) - BSC 61 Light Stone, BSC 28 Silver Grey and BSC 34 Slate as per MEGO 237/40.
1941 (05 Dec) - BSC 61 Light Stone or BSC 64 Portland Stone with BSC 28 Silver Grey and BSC 34 Slate as per MEGO 1272/41.
1943 (Apr?) - Desert Pink Z1 and Blue Black as per ME Standing Orders.
1943 (19 Dec 43) - Desert Pink/Dark Green or Black Dark Brown or Slate.
1944 (12 Sep 44) - SCC 15 or US Olive Drab as per MEGO 835/45.

Tactical Markings (Geometric Diagrams)

1939 - Issued under War Office Letter dated 30 May 39 unchanged until wars end.



Royal Armoured Corps Flash

Issued under 30 Corps letter dated 07 Nov 41.
Cancelled by Op Inst 15 Army Gp dated 19 Aug 43.
Replaced by Red/White/Red flash by same Op Inst for Italy.



Geneva Cross marking for Ambulances

Issued under MEGO 570/44 for all ambulances unchanged until wars end.



Air to Ground Recognition Marking

St Andrews Cross issued 8th Army Letter dated 13 Jan 42.
Cancelled by letter dated 02 Aug 42.
Replaced by RAF roundel by same letter.
RAF Roundel cancelled by 15 Army Gp Op Instr dated 19 Aug 43, and replaced by Allied white star until wars end.



Right Hand Vehicle marking

Issued under MEGO 115/44 dated 04 Feb 44 for all right hand drive vehicles.



Arm of Service Markings

It is safer to consult primary sources as these markings were changed from time to time.

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LADY GAGA'S AFGHAN TOUR

PART TWO – THE BASE, FIGURES AND ACCESSORIES

Kamil Feliks Sztarbala adds his HobbyBoss 1:35 scale ShKH to a scratch built fortified base in Afghanistan, and guides us through his construction and painting of accessories and figures.



I started work on the base by scratch building all the necessary accessories. The first one was a portable toilet. I knew that one was available as a resin set from Verlinden Productions, but it was less time consuming to scratch build it than to purchase a ready-to-assemble kit at any hobby store.

I started with a simple body made from styrene sheet. Then, using different plastic profiles, I created an imitation of the pressure-moulded surfaces of the toilet. I covered the complete structure with a glossy blue from Tamiya, as a basecoat. Next I airbrushed it with a blue-grey, a little transparent and applied from above, to keep some shading under the surface details. Afterwards, I made some slight highlights with blue grey mixed with off-white.

Lifecolour's Tensocrome Blue Kerosene was applied as a wash over the painted surfaces. The roof was painted with Gunze's Off-White. Lastly, I made some dirt using Tamiya's Sand Weathering stick, applied with a slightly wet brush.

I scratch built the ammunition boxes with a PVC light styrene. It is softer than typical styrene, but can also be substituted for this purpose. First I cut 1.5 cm strips of a 4 mm sheet of PVC, and then glued them together using super glue, because a plastic glue would not work for PVC. Next I cut them into 2.5 cm pieces. A wooden structure of the surfaces was scratched with coarse sandpaper and my Olfa scribe.

The small table was taken from a 1:48 scale ground accessory set and prepared the same way as the ammo boxes.

CONCERTAINERS

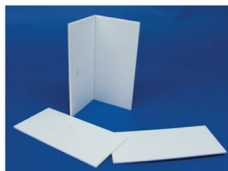
Last but not least there were the segments of Hesco Bastion Concertainers. These are multi-cellular defense barriers used in Afghanistan by ISAF. I used Styrofoam cubes as a basis for these. The real concertainers are made with a steel welded mesh and lined with polypropylene cloth. As an imitation of the mesh I used pieces of net-curtain, glued to the paper used for representing fabric. I mounted spirals made with a thin steel wire on the edges of all the cubes. The finished concertainers were mounted to the styrofoam base using grey pumice acrylic paste from Vallejo. Next I mixed this substance with sandy pigment and filled upper surfaces of concertainers to make an imitation of sand.

For the painting of the finished

fortification I used different tones. Starting with a base coat of Khaki, I lighted them with a Grey, Buff and finally White. As a final touch, I painted all the mesh with Vallejo's Natural Steel using drybrush technique.

Ammo boxes were fitted together to resemble something like stairs. I airbrushed them with Tamiya acrylic Khaki, German Grey and Flat Green applied with thin, transparent coats with various intensity. Next, I washed them with MIG Productions' Dark Wash, and highlighted their edges using Brown Sand acrylic paint.

At this step I had to make the casing of the base. It was necessary to hide cut-away surfaces of the concertainers. I had to choose one of the three options: to level them to the edges of the base and paint with black or grey, ▶



Scratch building the portable toilet started with simple sections of plastic sheet.



The edges were sprayed and a curved roof added.



The curved roof was sanded back and blended in with the sides, representing the pressure moulded surfaces of the toilet.



The door was built up from pieces of sheet and strip styrene too.



A number of different profiles were used from the Evergreen and Plastruct ranges.



The door was fitted in the closed position.



The toilet has been equipped with its roof fittings and feet here.



The portalo, all ready for paint.





Ammunition boxes were laminated from PVC light styrene.



It was then a simple matter of cutting and gluing the parts into the desired shape.



The small table was taken from a 1:48 scale ground accessory set and prepared the same way as the ammo boxes.

to make a wooden 'box' around the base, or invent 'something'. I chose the third one. My idea was to make an copy of the real Hesco concertainer's crowning.

First I prepared some 1 mm copper wire to make the steel mesh construction. This was really time-consuming, because the wire I had in my stash was coated with a kind of enamel, which had to be removed before soldering wires together. Small wire spirals were used to mount together finished parts of the mesh. I used a piece of dishcloth to represent the polypropylene lining. The whole construction was fitted around the boundary of the base.

Next I added some simulated damage to the edges to prevent a sandbox-look and for better exposure of the vehicle. I soaked

the cloth in a Uni-grunt fast-drying priming emulsion to harden it. For this purpose a strongly thinned acrylic resin could be used too.

Similar to the small boxes on a vignette, I painted the cloth with Tamiya acrylic Khaki, Grey, Buff and White. I also painted all the wires with Vallejo's Natural Steel. Lastly, I added a wash to the whole structure, using Uni-grunt mixed with a bit of black acrylic paint.

GROUNDWORK

At this stage I was able to start work on the surface of the base.

I applied a mixture of acrylic resin, sand, light pigment and Uni-grunt as a thinner. All the wheel and footprints were formed at this stage. I also impressed all accessories, like toilet or wood boxes, on the surface. To finish

all the sandy surfaces, both on the ground and the fortifications, I prepared a mixture of fine sand and two light pigments. Next, I rubbed it on the base with a soft brush. To protect the effect achieved I airbrushed it with a fixative. It was necessary to use minimum air pressure due to the risk of blowing off the pigments.

Pictures from Afghanistan show that there are often weeds on these sand fortifications. Following reference photos I added some small plants made with pieces of bush from Polak.

FIGURES

The two standing figures were scratch built using the same techniques as described for the driver in MMI Issue 68. The putty used was Magic Sculp, and this

was formed using mostly DIY tools such as a dental spatula, a suitably shaped barbecue pick and styrene rod.

I started each figure with their heads. I sculpted all of their details over small pre-formed balls of Magic Sculp mounted on wooden sticks. The finished heads were placed on a simple skeleton made of a copper wire. Little by little, I added flesh and clothes to the wire frame.

Starting with the pants, I reproduced all the parts of the uniforms. For the arms, the backbone of copper wire was once again used. Sometimes I temporarily added plasticine to check if the figures had the correct proportions and shapes.

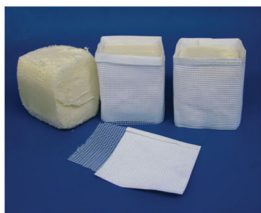
Each figure has different types of uniform and equipment. ▶



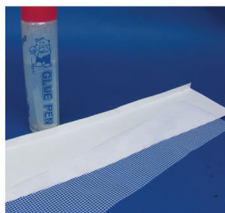
Hesco Bastion Concertainers are multi-cellular defense barriers used in Afghanistan by ISAF.



Styrofoam cubes were used as the starting point for the concertainers.



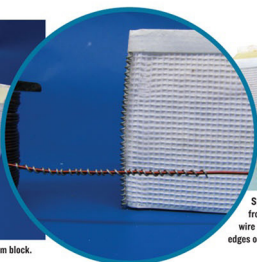
Net-curtain was used to represent the mesh, glued to the paper used to depict the fabric of the real thing.



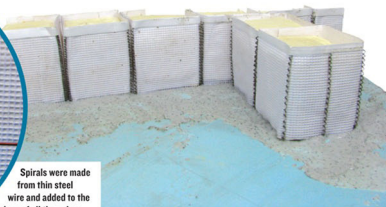
A craft glue pen was used to attach the mesh to the paper.



The paper/mesh combination was wrapped around each Styrofoam block.



Spirals were made from thin steel wire and added to the edges of all the cubes.



The completed concertainers, with their spiral wire corners.



The vehicle was checked for fit against the base and the concertainers.



The finished concertainers were mounted to the styrofoam base using Grey PUmice acrylic paste from Vallejo.



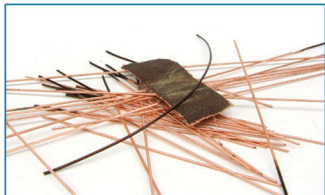
Grey pumice paste was mixed with sandy pigment to represent the sand that fills these containers.



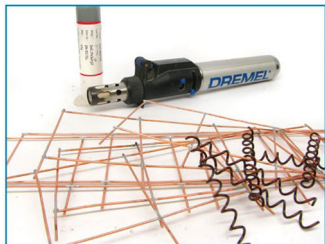
Tamiya acrylics were used to paint the finished fortifications - X-2 White, XF-49 Khaki, XF-66 Grey and XF-57 Buff.



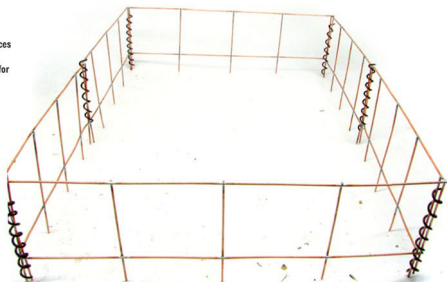
Ammo boxes were fitted together to resemble something like stairs. These were sprayed with Tamiya acrylic Khaki. German Grey and Flat Green applied with thin, transparent coats in various intensities.



A casing for the base was made to hide the cut surfaces of the concentrators. 1 mm copper wire was prepared for this fiddly job.



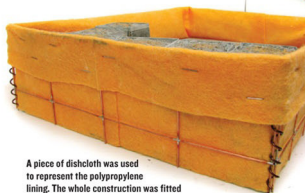
Wire sections were soldered together. The wire had to be stripped of an enamel coating before they could be soldered.



We now have something resembling a copper cage.



The elements have once again been checked for fit before the casing was completed.



A piece of dishcloth was used to represent the polypropylene lining. The whole construction was fitted around the boundary of the base.



The structure completely encloses the vehicle's blast pen.



Simulated damage was added to the edges to prevent a sandbox-look and for better exposure of the vehicle.

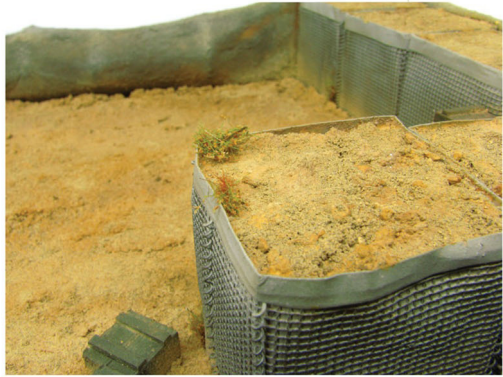


The cloth was soaked in Uni-grunt fast-drying priming emulsion to harden it.



Groundwork was made up from a mixture of acrylic resin, sand, light pigment and Uni-grunt (as a thinner).

Pictures from Afghanistan show that there are often weeds on these sand fortifications.



The weeds were added sparingly to the sandy tops of the concertainers.



All the components were secured to the base using strong super glue.

As a reference I used a really interesting thread about Polish Afghan Deployment at militaryphotos.net.

When the figures were finished, I had them cast in resin.

I used Vallejo acrylics for painting the figures. These paints need a primer base coat, so I started the paint job with an airbrushed coat of a XF-2 Flat White from Tamiya.

Usually I start with applying colours on the face and other fleshy parts of the figure.

Next I paint parts of clothing starting from the closest to the face and the hands, and proceeding to the outside, with details like buttons and insignia at the end. In this case I also used some decals from ToRo from their modern figure sets, with ranks, name badges etc. For a final touch I sprayed the whole figure with satin varnish, because in my opinion a matt finish doesn't look natural on figures.

FINAL COMPOSITION

The last thing I had to do was to mount all the components on a base. Figures and accessories were glued with CA-adhesive. I needed a strong weld to mount the vehicle, so I used a two-part epoxy adhesive.

As a final touch I made some retouchings on the base and vehicle, using pigments applied with a soft brush.

Modelspec

HobbyBoss 1:35 scale SHKH DANA Kit No. 85501

Accessories Used

ToHo Model Decals Item No. 35007 - 152mm SHKH DANA in Polish service

Materials Used

- Magic Sculpt
- Plastrat and Evergreen styrene profiles and sheets
- Styrofoam
- Mel-curtain
- Copper wire
- PVC Light plastic

Paints and Finishing Products

- Tamiya Acrylic enamels
- Mr. Hobby Colour paint
- Vallejo Acrylics
- Tamiya's Weathering sticks
- Pigments
- Vallejo Acrylic paste
- Polak Model scenery accessories
- Uni-grunt fast drying priming emulsion

✓ Impressive kit, good fit, high level of detail straight from the box.

✗ Steering fixed straight ahead.

Available from

HobbyBoss kits are available online from Creative Models Limited www.creativemodels.co.uk

Rating ●●●●●●●●

The standing figures were sculpted using Magic Sculpt and some simple DIY tools.



The three scratch built figures prior to painting.



Details include a bullet-proof vest and gun on the scratch built table.



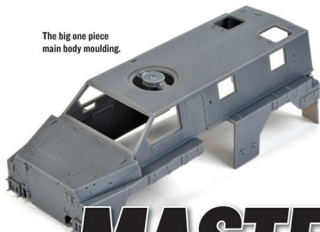
The overall scene enclosed in its casing.



The damage at the end of the casing permits the viewer to see more of the vehicle from ground level. Some final weathering was added to the vehicle, base and equipment to make sure that everything blended in nicely.



The big one piece main body moulding.



Markings are supplied for four specific Australian vehicles, including one in service in Afghanistan.

MASTER OF BUSH AND SAND

Showcase Models Australia is a brand new company that has just released a 1:35 scale injection-moulded Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicle. **The Editor** takes a look in the box.

The Australian Army announced project Bushmaster in the early 1990s to select a wheeled armoured vehicle that could safely transport an Infantry section of nine soldiers in the harsh conditions of northern Australia. Australian Defence Industries (ADI), an Australian Government organisation, was chosen as the winner of the competition with their four-wheeled mine-protected vehicle design. With the privatisation of ADI in 2001, production of the vehicle passed to Thales.

The first overseas deployment of the Bushmaster was in 1999, when trial vehicles were sent to East Timor. The production Bushmaster saw its operational debut in Iraq in 2005. The vehicle continues to serve in Afghanistan today.

Six variants of the Bushmaster are currently in service with the Australian Army. They include the basic Troop Vehicle, a Command Vehicle, Direct Fire Support Vehicle, Assault Pioneer Vehicle, Mortar Vehicle and Ambulance. This Australian design has now also been taken up by the British and Royal Danish Armies.

Showcase Models Australia is a new



Tyres are moulded in a hardish black vinyl material.

company and their debut release is a 1:35 scale Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicle.

Showcase Models' Bushmaster comprises 344 parts in medium grey plastic, 24 parts in clear, a good-sized photo-etched fret, four vinyl tyres and a decal sheet with four marking options.

Moulding is typical of the mainstream manufacturers – this is not a "limited run" offering, at least in terms of quality. The plastic parts are nicely done with crisply raised and recessed surface details as appropriate.

Upon opening the box, the eye is drawn to the large one-piece body moulding. This features convincing anti-skid texture on the top of the part. The one-piece lower hull completes the box structure, but there are plenty of pieces for detailing the suspension, interior and exterior.

The wheels may be posed straight ahead or turned. It appears that they may be made workable too, but I won't be sure until I have actually started assembling the kit. The suspension and steering units are really quite involved and highly detailed.

The tyres are presented in a fairly hard black vinyl material. The raised seam line is quite flat and should be easy to remove. If you are not a fan of vinyl tyres, I am sure that aftermarket resin replacements will be on their way soon.

A complete interior is supplied. I particularly like the crew seats with their photo-etched harnesses and Auscam-decal

cushions. They should look great when added to the shelves, steps and other features inside the crew area of the vehicle. Two choices of photo-etched dashboard panels are provided. Most of the crew hatches and doors are supplied separately, so they may be posed open to display much of this nice interior detail.

Exterior fittings are quite comprehensive too, including machine gun positions and a spare tyre with Auscam decals for its nicely textured cover.

Clear parts are thin and free from distortion. The frames are prominently moulded to the windows, making masking easier for the modeller.

I like the approach to the number plates. These are supplied as photo-etched parts (one pair for each different licence number) plus a decal overlay. This will be a great representation of the real pressed metal ADF number plates.

Four marking options are supplied on the decal sheet, which is printed by Cartograf. The decals are in register, glossy and display a minimum of carrier film. They look excellent.

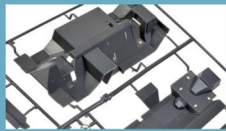
Just about my only complaint is that the sprues do not include the Emu racing alongside the vehicle on the box art!

Showcase Models Australia's 1:35 scale Bushmaster PMV is an impressive debut offering of an imposing and interesting modern vehicle. Whether you are planning to depict an Australian scene or in Afghanistan, it should be an impressive centrepiece. ■

Available online from Showcase Models Australia
www.showcasemodelsaustralia.com.au



Anti-skid coating moulded to the roof of the Bushmaster.



The lower hull and floor insert for the interior.



Fabric texture on the spare wheel cover.



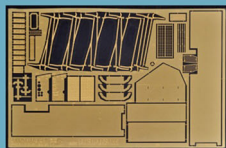
Most of the doors and hatches are separate, so they may be posed open.



Four well-moulded weapons are supplied.



Suspension components.



The photo-etched fret.



Clear parts are thin and free from distortion.



Generic markings are included.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Bill Wiseman examines the latest release in Tristar's 1:35 scale Panzer I family - the Munitionsschlepper auf Panzerkampfwagen 1A with Ammo trailer.

With the Panzer I being rendered obsolete early in WWII, the chassis was modified for use as a munitions carrier before being phased out and rebuilt into the Flakpanzer I.

Continuing on with their 1:35 scale Panzer I family, Tristar has now added this variant to their stable, and a lovely kit it is. You still get the standard 3 series/4 series parts to build a tank with turret if you wish, saving the Sd.Ah.32 trailer for another project, but you'll have to source the instructions for this as the turret parts are called out as not for use.

The kit contains 17 sprues, with the new parts being contained on one sprue. There is also an etched fret, decals, and two springs for the trailer. The parts are cleanly moulded with only the newer parts showing a bit of fine flash, which was a bit tricky to remove from some of the finer parts, but wasn't a real problem. It's easier to remove the flash from these smaller parts whilst they're still on the sprue, as it minimises any damage to the part and your fingers!

The kit builds very quickly and comes with a very full interior, including engine compartment,

all of which can be displayed through the various hatches if left open. There were no fit problems encountered during the build, and given the amount of parts involved in the makeup of the interior and exterior, you would be forgiven for thinking the odd problem might occur. A trouble free build from stage one.

And although there's a lot of them, the tracks didn't take as long as I thought they might, being cleaned and assembled in a couple of evenings. There are aftermarket alternatives available should you require them.

Moving on to the Sd.Ah.32 trailer, this is a very busy kit in itself, and the parts show some very fine detail. The trailer frame has two very small (and I do mean small) eyelets mounted in place, and care is needed to avoid knocking them off while cleaning up the part. Should this fate befall you, Grandt Line has a set of eyelets in their range that will replace the lost items, or you could make your own with some fine wire.

Construction is straightforward and very fast. This begins with the ammo storage box, which is made up from seven pieces. You need to decide at this stage whether to have the lid opened or closed. The only real issue was with parts

H31 and H32, as they were a bit distorted and tended to bulge in the middle. The supplied ammo helped fix this, but it could also be remedied by clamping the parts between two pieces of something solid and firm (I used a couple of metal plates), and soaking them in hot water for a few seconds. Once cool, they should be nice and flat. You'll also need to remove the flash from the holes in order to fit the ammo.

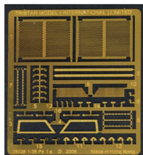
The next stage of construction is the main trailer and this is where the bulk of the fine flash is to be found. This is really not such a problem, but there are some delicate parts involved in this part of the build, so care needs to be exercised when removing these from the sprue. You have the choice of having the trailer detached or hitched, and parts are provided to allow for both options. You may have to open the locator holes for parts H-6 (x2) and H-10, but that's about it. There are two springs supplied which fit very easily into their respective positions, and greatly enhance this area of the model.

Despite the odd bit of warpage and some easy to remove fine flash, this was a fun kit to build and fills an important gap in the early war vehicle department. The Sd.Ah.32 trailer is a gem of a model in its own right, and is a highlight of this kit. It would be great to see it released as a separate item someday.

Highly Recommended. ■



Six clear parts are provided.



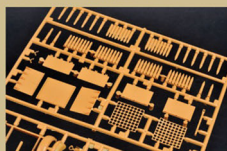
A photo-etched fret is included.



The new parts are supplied on a single sprue.



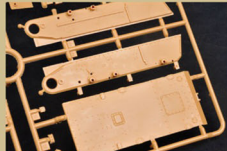
The Sd.Ah.32 trailer is a very busy kit in itself.



Plenty of ammo is supplied for the trailer.



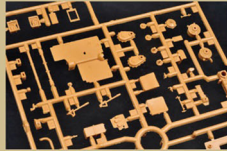
Full engine bay detail is provided, which may be displayed under open hatches.



The lower hull is made up from separate panels for the sides, front, back and floor.



Running gear is crisply detailed.



Smaller details are equally well done.

Thanks to Tristar for the review sample www.tristar-model.com

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February 11th

South West Model Show.
 Now in its 16th year, Saturday February 11th promises to be the premier event in the South West's model enthusiasts' calendar, with over 2000 visitors, clubs and traders expected to attend the Fleet Air Arm Museum's Model Show in Yeovilton.
 Over 120 traders and clubs will be exhibiting everything from model aircraft, boats, figures, tanks and dioramas. Airfix will run a 'Make and Paint' workshop and sponsor competitions designed to recognise high achievement in modelling across all disciplines. When not seeing around the model show visitors can go on board Concorde and see the award winning Aircraft Carrier Experience.
 Doors open at 10.00am. Tickets may be purchased on line on www.fleetairarm.com
 Normal Museum admission prices apply and there is no additional charge for the Show.

February 19th

Huddersfield 2012 - The North's Premier Model Show.
 Celebrating its 18th anniversary, Huddersfield 2012 is Yorkshire's foremost model exhibition. It will include displays of model aircraft, cars, military vehicles, ships and sci-fi subjects.
 The show, hosted by the Wakefield branch of the International Plastic Modellers Society, attracts more than 90 exhibitors and will feature over 2,000 models.
 The venue will be Huddersfield Sports Centre, and the date is

Sunday 19 February 2012.
Huddersfield Sport Centre offers a wide range of facilities including a cafeteria and licensed bar. Parking is available next to the centre.
 Situated very close is **Huddersfield Kingsgate Shopping Centre**, which is an added attraction for visiting families. Please contact Colin Bebbington. Phone - 01924 520596. Email c.bebbington@ntlworld.com

February 25th

ON-TRACK 2012
 Following the cancellation of the 'Universal Model Show' booking at the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, Harold Hanna will be taking over the now vacant date of Saturday February 25th for "On Track 2012".
 Any questions, requests for booking forms or suggestions should be addressed to Harold at: on.track@live.co.uk

February 26th

SOUTH CHESHIRE MILITARY UNIVERSAL MODEL SHOW
 South Cheshire Military universal model show including open competition and full-size exhibits will be held at the Oakley Centre, West Street, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 2PZ on Sunday 26 February 2012, 1000-1700.
 Adults: £3.50, Children and OAP: £1.50
 Contact Phil on 01270 256880, show@southcheshiremilitaire.co.uk or visit www.southcheshiremilitaire.co.uk

March 17th-18th

SKALA 2012 - IPMS Norway

Nationals.

On 17 and 18 March 2012, IPMS Norway is holding its annual competition and exhibition at Letohallen near Gardermoen Int. Airport.
 This is one of the largest model competitions in Scandinavia and, like last year, we will have several demonstrations and how-tos from both national and international model builders. For more information see www.ipmsnorge.org/portal/
 Questions regarding the show can be sent to post@ipmsnorge.org
 We would like to welcome all model builders from all parts of the world!

April 20th-22nd

IPMS SPACE COAST FLORIDA - MODEFEST
 IPMS Space Coast will host a Modelfest and contest from April 20-22 2012 at the International Pal Resort, 1300 N Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach FL. For special guest rates call 321-783-2271, code: SCM. For contest information please contact Bob Taylor, 321-676-1472 between 10:00am and 8:00pm, or email BHT936@aol.com
 Vendor contact is Carl Weaver, 321-431-5536 between 10:00am and 8:00pm, or email cweaver@cflrr.com
 Visit our website at: www.ipmsspacecoast.com

May 20th

IPMS Museum Hendon Model Show.
 The date for the next Hendon Model Show has been fixed for Sunday 20 May 2012 from 10 am to 6 pm. The show will be held

at the Royal Air Force Museum, Grahame Park Way, London, NW9 5LL.

This is the show's fourth year and we have been pleased to see consistently increasing numbers of visitors from both the modelling community and general public.
 We are now opening booking for traders and clubs. To register your club please email hendonmodelshow@yahoo.co.uk
 For more information, please visit www.rafmuseum.org/whats-on

June 17th

MAFVA NATIONALS 2012
 The date has been determined for the vehicle show and thus the MAFVA nationals for next year: Sunday June 17th 2012 (Father's day).
 And more good news, we appear to have a marquee as well! More information will be available in coming issues.

NOTTINGHAM MAFVA NEW VENUE

Nottingham MAFVA now meet at the following venue:
 The Community Room
 Highfields Fire Station,
 Hassocks Lane, Beeston,
 Nottingham, NG9 2GO.
 Our meetings are still on the second Saturday of each month from 12.00 till 4pm.
 Newcomers always welcome!

If you have an upcoming event that you would like featured on this page, please send all details to: editor@modelmilitary.com

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■ This particular kit is the very first attempt by ICM to release a Type 770K (W150) Tourenwagen plastic kit in 1:35 scale into the market

■ Highly detailed chassis, engine and interior

■ 4 versions decal sheet included



MODEL KIT NO. 35533

Type 770K (W150) Tourenwagen

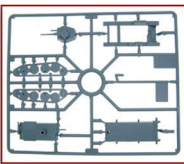
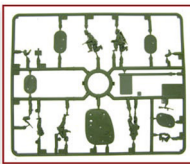
WWII German Leaders' Car

SCALE
1:35

WWW.ICM.COM.UA



Small Scale A round-up of the latest news and releases in 1:72 and 1:76



ZVEZDA

1:72 SCALE

SOVIET RECONNAISSANCE TEAM 1941-1943 • KIT NO. 6137

This small new set from Zvezda comprises just four figures in different poses wearing camouflage suits over the standard uniforms. Although aimed at Zvezda's "Art of Tactic" wargaming system, the figures will be equally useful for static modellers. The parts are moulded in quite a hard plastic, rather than the softer material often found in sets like these. This will make painting and gluing much easier.

The poses and facial expressions are very good, the figures in proportion and sharply moulded. Small individual bases are provided to allow the figures to be kept separate but there is also a slightly larger base that all four figures can fit into. This is an impressive little set. Highly recommended for both wargamers and modellers.

Thanks to The Hobby Company for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Alex Clark

ZVEZDA

1:100 SCALE

GERMAN LIGHT TANK PZKPFW 38(T) • KIT NO. 6130

This is another kit aimed at Zvezda's Art of Tactic wargaming system. It is made up from literally a handful of parts on a single sprue, with the running gear on each side moulded as single track and wheel pieces. The plastic itself is of a harder type than that used for some of the earlier kits and so is easier to glue, paint and generally work with. The general level of detail is good given the size and small number of parts. In fact with some extra work it will make a great little model.

Recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Alex Clark

DRAGON

1:72 SCALE

Kfz. 69 TOWING VEHICLE WITH 4.7CM PAK 35/36 • KIT NO. 7419

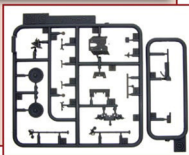
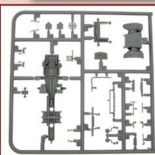
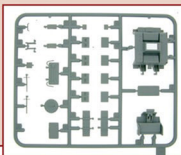
This kit follows Dragon's earlier cargo and troop carrying Kfz. 70 release. It shares many components with the earlier kit, including the chassis and wheels; along with some new parts for the body and of course the towed gun itself. The window glazing is provided as a separate, crystal clear piece with no moulding imperfections. As with the other kit, the rest of the parts are also superbly moulded with some very nice details. The new items, notably the gun and the ammunition storage boxes, are all equally well done too. Where appropriate there is delicate texture, such as on the seats and wooden items.

There is just a small set of adequate decals for a plain grey vehicle.

The Kfz. 70 kit that came before is a superb model and this new Kfz. 69 follows in the same tradition. Dragon continues to give us some excellent small-scale models. Highly Recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Alex Clark



IBG

1:72 SCALE UNIVERSAL CARRIER I MK. II - MORTAR CARRIER • KIT NO. 72025

IBG is a Polish distributor of very fine, if sometimes over-engineered, British soft skins that look like they may have

come from another Polish company, Mirage, because of their penchant for similar styled instructions, and highly detailed but over complicated 1:72 scale models. I haven't yet seen the Mk. I, but the three Mk. II based kits are similar with an extra small sprue added for the Mortar and Boyes Rifle.

This one, the Mortar Carrier, comes packed in a sturdy top opening box with a massive 181 dark grey plastic parts on four sprues, decals for two vehicles, a 12 page instruction booklet with parts plan, 26 computer generated build diagrams and two pages of paint/decals instructions. There is a small history piece on the side of the box. The tracks are link and length and are very small (some will say too small), which accounts for the high parts count, and there is a rather handy optional track assembly guide. The three Bren Guns and .303 rifles are the best that I have ever seen in this scale.

Sprue M carries all of the parts for the 3" Mortar while Z has the parts that differentiate the Mk. II from the Mk. I.

I am not happy with computer generated instructions although they are usable and care will need to be taken with the over complicated assembly to avoid fit problem later in the build.

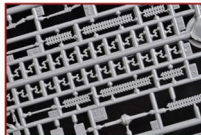
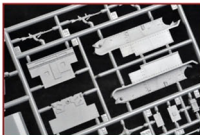
Otherwise, I'd just like to say thank you IBG!

Highly Recommended.

IBG kits are available from Hannants

www.hannants.co.uk

Glen Porter



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- ◊ Italian 1:35 S-400
- ◊ Tatra Sherman II Mid-Production
- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 Panzerjäger T26g/28g
- ◊ Zvezda 1:35 602 H2 Pz II
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 403 3rd Luft Pz.Kfw. II
- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 ZLC-2000
- ◊ Zvezda Mercedes L4500R Mauler
- ◊ and more...



Issue 47

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- ◊ Minikits 1:35 Drago
- ◊ HobbyBoss 1:35 ZTZ-99A
- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 ASLV-25 updated
- ◊ Italian 1:35 Carro Armato P40 Italian Heavy Tank
- ◊ Finishing School Part Five
- ◊ Jasta Revolution TR-D Bench Test
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- ◊ and more...



Issue 48

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- ◊ CMK 1:35 LT vz 35 light tank
- ◊ Finishing School Part Six
- ◊ Chorborg 044 small scale die Pz I
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Whitehead
- ◊ AFV Club 1:35 Sd.Kfz.251/3 Ausf. C
- ◊ and more...



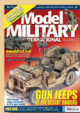
Issue 49

- ◊ Tamiya 1:35 Austin Tilly
- ◊ Tamiya 1:35 Austin Tilly
- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 Sd.Kfz. 7
- ◊ Hobby Boss 1:35 ZLC-2000
- ◊ Zvezda 1:35 14500 R
- ◊ Finishing School Part Seven
- ◊ Hobby Boss 1:35 T26E4
- ◊ Chorborg 044 small scale die Pz 2
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- ◊ and more...



Issue 54

- ◊ Accurate Armour 1:35 T-28
- ◊ Revell 1:35 Panzerjäger Panther VPS
- ◊ Special Forces conversion
- ◊ TANKTEST 2000 show report
- ◊ ICM 1:35 Shadobaker
- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 ZTZ-99A
- ◊ Conquered Iron in Scale - Tech Guide
- ◊ Dragon Composite Sherman Firefly
- ◊ Trestler 1:35 Brunner
- ◊ and more...



Issue 51

- ◊ Real Model 1:35 Coyote conversion
- ◊ 2000 AMSL USA Nationals
- ◊ Tamiya 1:48 Komatsu G40 Bulldozer
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 T19
- ◊ Greenhead Hobby 1:35 BMW R75
- ◊ BHM 1:35 S-30
- ◊ Greenhead Hobby 1:35 IWS Flak 43
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- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 upgraded Challenger 2
- ◊ and more...



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- ◊ Dragon 1:35 BT-7 Model 1935
- ◊ Shizuka Hobby Show report
- ◊ Spearhead Miniatures 1:8 British Panzerjäger figures
- ◊ Tamiya 1:35 T-55 in trap markings
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- ◊ and more...



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- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 scale LAVI
- ◊ Jant Bronck large scale SS 404 Ausf. D.
- ◊ Squadron's Eagle Scout XIX
- ◊ AMT's 1:25 Ford Station Wagon
- ◊ Badger Velocity Airbrush bench test
- ◊ GHQ 1:285 scale Dorama
- ◊ Small-scale Chorborg dorama Pt.4
- ◊ and more...



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- ◊ Tatra 1:35 AA45/TGW
- ◊ ScaleModelWorld 2010 Report
- ◊ Alan's heavily rebuilt 1:35 Marder II Ausf. D
- ◊ Tamiya 1:35 SAS Jags conversion
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- ◊ Snow Technique Tech Guide
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- ◊ and more...



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- ◊ Dragon 1:35 scale M7 Priest
- ◊ Minikits 1:35 T-70M conversion
- ◊ 1:35 monochrome conversion
◊ Hetzer Vignette Tech Guide Pt.1
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 GMC Truck and Panzer 38(t)
- ◊ Real Model L48 White Scout Car
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 scale Tiger I
- ◊ Italian 1:48 Sd.Kfz.234/2 Puma and Tankmen
- ◊ and more...



Issue 61

- ◊ 1:35 scale T-62M conversion
- ◊ Jant Bronck large scale SS 404 gunner
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 scale M7 Priest
- ◊ Bronco 1:35 Archer 17 Pdr SPG
- ◊ Hetzer Vignette Tech Guide Pt.2
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Sd.Kfz. 1 Early Version
- ◊ HobbyBoss 1:35 scale VK 1602 Leopard
- ◊ Dragon 1:48 Panzerfaute
- ◊ and more...



Issue 62

- ◊ 1:35 M42 Abrams with TUSK II conversion
- ◊ Sd.Kfz. 234/3 Dorama
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Behringer Panther
- ◊ Dragon R80 in winter whitewash
- ◊ Dragon's Panzer IV Ausf. G
- ◊ Dragon's 1:35 scale Plavskier
- ◊ Tamiya Pz. 38(t)
- ◊ Tamiya's 1:35 scale M5 and M8
- ◊ and more...



Issue 63

- ◊ 1:35 Accurate Armour Coyote TSV
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Henschel Jagdtrier
- ◊ Dragon Models 1:35 Heinrich Walker
- ◊ HobbyBoss 1:35 M4A1 White Scout Car
- ◊ 48 HobbyBoss 1:35 T-70
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Pz.Bet.Mk. II
- ◊ HobbyBoss 1:35 VK4502
- ◊ Italian 1:35 88er gun
- ◊ and more...



Issue 64

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- ◊ Multimedia Tatra in 1:35 scale
- ◊ CyberHobby 1:35 Neudorfstrasse
- ◊ HobbyBoss 1:35 M4A1 White Scout Car
- ◊ GreenHobby 1:35 C.8m Plac. 44
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Henschel Jagdtrier
- ◊ Tatra 1:35 Easy Eight
- ◊ Tamiya 148 Panther II Ausf.A/B/C
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Su-85M
- ◊ and more...



Issue 65

- ◊ Revell 1:35 Fuchs
- ◊ AMSL 2010 Show Report
- ◊ Tamiya 1:35 M20
- ◊ Large scale WWI tank
- ◊ Bronco 1:35 Henschel H.39
- ◊ 1:35 Japanese Type 97 Sh-Ki conversion
- ◊ 1:35 Leopard 247 conversion
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- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Whitehead
- ◊ and more...



Issue 66

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- ◊ Tanktest 2010 Show Report
- ◊ Trumpeter 1:35 E100
- ◊ Gao-Liao 1:48 Buffalo M10AP
- ◊ Scratch built 1:32 M3 Panther
- ◊ Hobby Boss 1:35 scale ZTZ.96
- ◊ Dragon 1:35 Panzer N70 (A)
- ◊ HobbyBoss 1:35 ZTZ.96 Chinese MBT
- ◊ Revell 1:72 88 mm FLAK gun
- ◊ and more...



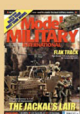
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- ◊ 1:35 Warrior OPV conversion
- ◊ Tamiya 1:35 Kfz.222 in desert camouflage
- ◊ War and Peace 2010 Show Report
- ◊ Italian 1:35 Light Tank Mk. V B
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STARMER'S ARMOUR

6 SOUTH AFRICAN DIVISION IN AFRICA AND ITALY 1943-5
1:35 SCALE (ALSO AVAILABLE IN 1:72 SCALE)

BY MIKE STARMER, WILLIAM MARSHALL AND PETE FREEMAN

Hot on the heels of the excellent Armour Colour Gallery Camouflage and Markings title on the 6th South African Armoured Division comes a companion piece for those who wish to model the subjects covered in that title.

William Marshall has teamed with Mike Starmar, who has his own range of Colour & Markings books devoted to British Armour of WWII, to deliver an A5 decal sheet covering vehicles of the 6th South African Armoured Division in North Africa and Italy, 1943-45.

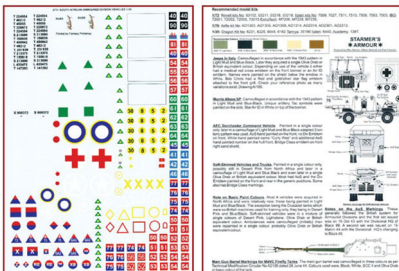
The decal sheet is packed to the brim with a myriad of markings including census numbers, vehicle artwork, names, tactical markings, AoS & Divisional insignia. Additionally, miscellaneous markings such as bridge class, Generals' pennants, air recognition stars and roundels and First Aid insignia are included along with gun calibration markings frequently seen on the flanks of 8th Army Shermans in Italy.

Note: the blank spaces are actually many white markings, which are hard to see against the background.

Vehicles covered are Crusader, Sherman, Grant & Stuart tanks; M7 SPG, Humber SC, Universal/Bren Carriers, Jeeps, Morris 40mm AA, AEC ACV, and soft skins.

The instructions refer the user to the aforementioned title as well as two other titles: Sicily & Italy 1943-1945 By Mike Starmar and SA Colours and Markings Books 5 & 7 by William Marshall. Additionally, they offer a list of recommended kits but limit these to DML, Tamiya and Academy and provide colour indications (within the limitation of printing) & recommendations from the White Ensign Range.

Small diagrams indicate placement of decals and notes give colour and marking information but I noted some errors in the descriptions with M4 Shermans being specified. The 6 SA AD used a variety of Shermans in NA and Italy with



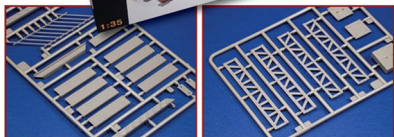
the majority being M4A4 and the M4A1 76mm. Similarly the M3 Stuart Recce is listed as an M3 when it was an M3A3. These are minor points not detracting from an excellent set of decals and the generic naming was probably used in the text but this may confuse some modellers.

The printing is first class with everything in register and scale. A lot of decals have been fitted on the sheet giving the users a great range of subjects. This will be a very useful set and it can also be used as a source for other Commonwealth subjects in addition to the South African ones (as mine will). This is a great concept and I'd love to see this applied to other titles in the Armour Colour Gallery range.

Highly Recommended,

Thanks to Starmar's Armour for the sample.

Al Bowie



MINIART

1:35 SCALE - PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE • ITEM NO. 35522

I must confess that when I saw this set from MiniArt it was love at first sight! There can be no doubt that MiniArt from Ukraine is a very original and prolific company, but this set is completely insane.

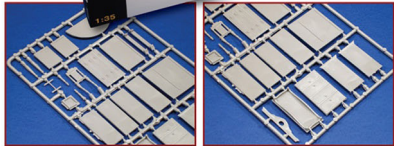
This Pedestrian Bridge set is so cool, and it will look absolutely great in scenarios like urban, industrial, railway or even in sci-fi dioramas. I can just imagine dioramas about Berlin in the last days of the World War Two or Stalingrad in the 1942-43 winter. The best thing is that this set can be easily combined with many other sets from MiniArt catalogue, including their Metal Stairs (item 35525), Building Stairs (item 35545) or Metal Telegraph Poles (item 35529).

This set will be the delight of many diorama modellers and I will, for certain, use this set many times in my upcoming projects.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to MiniArt for the sample. MiniArt products are available online from Creative Models Limited www.creativemodels.co.uk

Jose Brito



MINIART

1:35 SCALE - FURNITURE SET • ITEM NO. 35548

MiniArt from Ukraine keeps pushing the limits and this time we are presented with a very attractive furniture set.

This set contains five living room furniture items, including two extremely well detailed chairs.

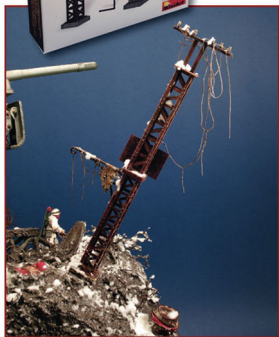
The overall detail is very nice and, once assembled and painted, they will look really beautiful and definitely enhance any diorama.

Of course, as you can imagine, they can also be used in ruined or damaged buildings. All we have to do is assemble and paint them in the usual way. Judging by the furniture style, this can set may be used in dioramas from many different eras and theatres including World War One, World War Two, modern, Middle East, Iraq, Afghanistan, Ex-Yugoslavia and all kind of local conflicts, riots or uprisings.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to MiniArt for the sample. MiniArt products are available online from Creative Models Limited www.creativemodels.co.uk

Jose Brito



MINIART

1:35 SCALE METAL TELEGRAPH POLES ITEM NO. 35529

Well, this set from MiniArt is not new but, even so, I think it deserves a small review.

What to say about MiniArt in Ukraine? This company is becoming one of the first choices for diorama modellers when it comes to choosing original accessories for a new project.

I have already used this set many times. It can enhance and bring to life any diorama. The best thing is that this set can be used in a wide variety of situations and scenarios. To prove that, I used my set in two sci-fi scenarios and believe me, they do not look misplaced.

If you want to make an urban or industrial diorama, then you must stop and take a look at this set. Besides, it can be combined with many other items from MiniArt's huge, diversified and original catalogue.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to MiniArt for the sample. MiniArt products are available online from Creative Models Limited www.creativemodels.co.uk

Jose Brito

VOYAGER MODEL

1:35 SCALE

SET NO: PE 35427 WWII GERMAN KING TIGER VK.45.02 (P)
HIV ZIN1 (FOR DRAGON 6657/6613)
SET NO: PE 35434 WWII US 105MM HOWITZER M2A1 (FOR
AFV CLUB 35182)
SET NO: TEZ 043 HAND SAW BLADE

KIT NO: PE 35427 • WWII GERMAN KING TIGER VK.45.02 (P)
HIV ZIN1 (FOR DRAGON 6657/6613)

This photo-etched update set is targeted at the Dragon kit and come in a sturdy cardboard box with five pages of instructions; three photo-etched sheets, copper cable and some steel wire and plastic rod. What really caught my eye were the four miniature metal retaining springs for the front and rear mud guards.

The etched parts are as nicely done with enough replacement and enhancement parts to keep even the most detail-afflicted modeller reasonably happy. The etched engine grilles are very well done with a fine weave mesh represented and the side and rear mud guards having a very convincing cross hatch detail on the upper surfaces.

The inclusion of the copper wire for the tow cables and pistol port plugs are a nice nice touch and will help in further enhancing the finish of the target kit. The pre-made metal mud guards spring being and even nicer detail touch and look pretty close to scale and are a nice alternative to the usually included plastic kit versions.

Overall, a nicely thought out and produced update set and it will be interesting to see if it can be used on some of the other manufacturers versions of these kits.

Highly Recommended.

KIT NO: PE 35434

WWII US 105MM HOWITZER M2A1 (FOR AFV CLUB 35182)

This set is also targeted at a specific kit and the two sheets of photo-etch provide more than enough pieces to upgrade the AFV Club kit.

The instructions are well laid out over three pages and are clear enough describing most of the bending and fitting of the parts. In particular, the three main parts that make up the replacement gun shield are very well done and certainly have a nice in-scale look about them.

My only reservation is I believe that kit plastic guns shield parts include raised domed rivet head details and Voyager have provided divots on the reverse of their etched gun shield parts that will require pressing out with a pen tip or similar tool in order to achieve the required domed rivet head look. I am not sure how well this will work and in turn look on the finished model.

The rest of the etched set go towards making up the various brackets, hinges, chains and fittings for the gun shield and gun carriage. This is again where you may have to question is the kit part worthy replacing given the dexterity required to bend and fit the etch replacement part.

This set is also nicely produced and if upgrading and replacing the plastic kit parts for added realism is you want the Voyager set will help you to attain this goal.

Recommended.

KIT NO: TEZ 043 • HAND SAW BLADE

This set comprises ten etched saw blades in various shapes and sizes and continues Voyager's venture into providing photo-etched tools and accessories for the hobbyist.

The very basic instruction sheet suggests using these blades in either craft knife type handles or penknife type handles. Outside of this I am unsure if they will fit all types of hobby handle based tools.

The very fine teeth and profiles on each of the blades should give enough variety to handle most cutting and sawing situations and when using on plastic or resin always remember to wear a mask of some type sort to avoid the nasty resin and plastic dust particles.

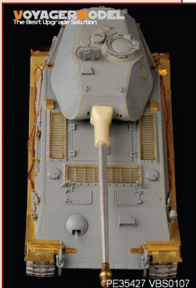
All up, a nice set of saw blades to add to your toolkit.

Recommended.

Thanks to Voyager Model for the review samples

www.voyagermodel.com

Ross Ferro





Figures - A round-up of the latest figure sets on release...

MINIART

1:35 SCALE

U.S. TANK CREW. NW EUROPE ITEM NO. 35070

The latest in MiniArt's growing range of 1:35 scale figure sets is this "U.S. Tank Crew, NW Europe".

Five figures are included, all in relaxed and useful poses. The figures are presented in grey plastic, and moulding is excellent with just some fine flash present on a couple of pieces.

All five figures are in winter gear, with zippered tanker jackets and gloves. The Commander is wearing a longer anorak, and one of the figures is posed to sit on the front corner of a Sherman tank.

As usual with MiniArt, the high quality of the artwork is noteworthy. This will form ample inspiration when painting the figures.

Instructions are on the back of the box, simply being part numbers pointing to the relevant position on the figure artwork. Although the parts are not numbered on the sprues, a small layout diagram is included inside the box. In reality, this should not present too much of a challenge.

With the plethora of U.S. WWII vehicle releases over the last few years, this new set of American crew figures is especially welcome.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Creative Models Limited for the sample www.creativemodels.co.uk
Brett Green



SKP

1:35 SCALE

LOGAR PATROL ITEM NO. SKP 125

SKP from the Czech Republic has recently released a modern Czech soldier figure in resin.

As the name implies, he is part of the ongoing Armed Czech Forces deployment in Logar, Afghanistan. Logar is an Afghan province south of Kabul.

The Czech Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Logar comprise both military and civilian elements. Logar is a tough place and Czech Armed Forces are operating in a very hostile environment.

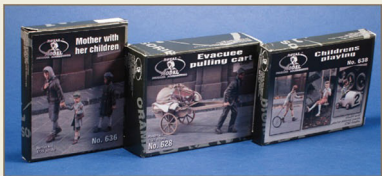
The new figure from SKP is just great. The detail is very nice and the casting flawless, with only some minor cleanup being necessary before assembly and painting.

This figure may be combined with their new detail set for the Bronco M114 model kit, Frag 5, SKP 105. When combined, they will look just awesome.

This figure is a very welcome addition. It is always great to have a modern military figure representing a European country. SKP really did a great job with this figure and I can recommend it without any reservations.

Many thanks to SKP for the sample. <http://www.skpmodel.eu/>

José Brito



ROYAL MODEL

1:35 SCALE

EVACUEE PULLING CART, ITEM NO. 628

MOTHER WITH HER CHILDREN, ITEM NO. 636

CHILDREN PLAYING, ITEM NO. 638

Being a big enthusiast of civilian figures in 1:35, it was with a great pleasure that I received news about these new figures from the Italian company, Royal Model.

Royal Model is already well known in the scale modelling world and consequently one can only expect the best from them. Once again, Royal Model raises the bar and enters into a new dimension.

The set 628, Evacuee pulling cart and the set 636, Mother with her children, may be combined and used in the same scenario or diorama. The first resin set consists of an adult man figure pulling a cart full of hastily arranged personal belongings. Casting is flawless. The details are lovely and we can even feel the stress in the figure's face. The second set provides an adult woman and her two children. Like the first set, this one is lovely and the mother's facial expression is absolutely awesome. She looks very sad and anxious - great sculpting work. The boy also carries a teddy bear. This is an observant detail.

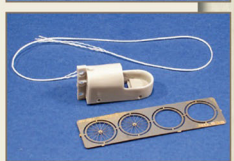
The best thing about these two sets is that they can be used in lots of scenarios - from WWII, WWII, and even modern conflicts like ex-Yugoslavia, Chechnya and Georgia. The third set depicts children playing and it is super nice. Besides its flawless casting, the poses are convincing and very dynamic. The set comprises three resin figures, a rope for the swing and photo-etched parts. The kids' faces are amazing and very natural. We can almost feel the joy in their expressions.

In conclusion, these three new sets are a real must have. They are top quality, flawlessly cast, with natural poses and expressions and will definitely add the "human factor" to any diorama or scenario.

So what were you expecting from Royal Model? Only the best! Recommended without reservation.

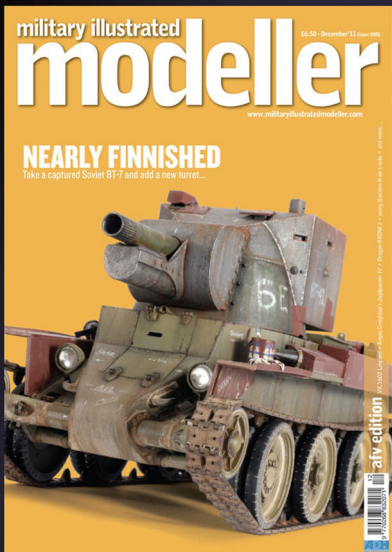
Thanks to Royal Model for the samples www.royalmodel.com/

José Brito



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INSTRUCTIONS. HOW IMPORTANT ARE THEY?

My "real job" entails reading and interpreting plans and drawings in order to purchase material for manufacturing. I have found on occasions that not all of these plans or drawings are accurate or fully explained. This can lead to confusion and in some instances the wrong material being purchased.

I seem to remember in the first model article that I had published, I boldly made the comment "I don't need instructions" but rather followed my instincts. Looking back at that article now, I find if I had followed the instructions, I would not have fitted some of the road wheels on my 1:48 scale Tamiya Sherman back to front! Not all instructions are written and illustrated as well as Tamiya's so the fault was entirely my own.

Tamiya instructions are, in my opinion, the benchmark for all others to follow. I can report from first hand experience that writing and illustrating instructions can be at times a frustrating exercise as your inbuilt practices and indeed prejudices are often translated into the instruction sequences.

From a modelling perspective, I find some instructions are in the wrong sequence. I guess we all have had the experience of gluing a part on, only to have it get in the way when we fill and sand or worst still, break off when we handle the model during the construction phase. Conversely, I sometimes find the engineering of some kits leaves a little to be desired and thus the instructions may lead you in a direction that may result in a kit that is harder to assemble or paint than it should be.



The key, I believe, is to follow the instructions and test fit often. What is the old carpentry rule - measure twice and cut once? The same applies to modelling, so try and conceptualise the finished assembly in your mind and think about how hard

it will be to either fill or paint the finished product before you glue it in place.

Until next time *Luke Pitt*

VERLINDEN

1:48 SCALE 2CM FLAK 38A • ITEM NO. 2232

The 2cm FLAK 38 was the most widespread light anti-aircraft gun used by German forces during WWII. Oddly enough, this important piece of WWII history has yet to be kitted in plastic in 1:48 scale so this Verlinden resin release should be well received.

This kit is actually a reissue from the 'old' Verlinden Super tech range, but in any case it is quite a neat little kit with a multitude of possible uses. I am assuming that it was originally intended to be used on airfield dioramas, but the kit could form the basis for numerous AFV conversions - on the flatbed of a Tamiya Steyr 1500A or Krupp Protze for example - or if you are feeling really ambitious you could put the kit towards an Sd.Kfz. 251/17 conversion...

Spread over two Ziploc bags, the kit comprises 18 grey-green resin parts, 33 photo etched copper parts, one length of plastic tubing for the gun barrel etc, and a one page instruction sheet.

The resin parts in my example are very well cast and I was hard pressed to find any flaws at all in the casting. The detail on the resin parts is very fine and they should really 'pop' with some careful painting and weathering. The photo-etched copper parts look to fit the bill with the multi-part gun shield clearly being the standout feature on the fret.

The instructions are the 'exploded view' type and look to be very easy to follow, with all parts being clearly numbered and inventoried.

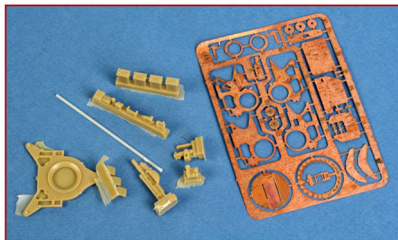
Verlinden has chosen to depict the gun without the standard Sd.Ah.52 trailer, but there are a few smaller accessories included such as 4 ammunition cases and two spare 2cm magazines.

I was actually a little surprised at how few resin parts there were in this kit, but it just goes to show how dainty the 2cm FLAK 38 is in 1:48 scale. Either way, I really liked this little kit and it does look like an enjoyable model to make.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Verlinden Productions for the sample www.verlindenonline.com

Alex Dutt



Luke Pitt hosts MMI's examination of the growing world of 1:48 scale military models, figures and accessories.

MMI 1:48 Scale Q&A with Jay Galbierz from Tank Workshop

Jay Galbierz is 44 years of age and lives in McDonough Georgia in the USA. He has been married for 22 years and has four children. As with most aftermarket manufacturers, he has also has a "real job". Jay is a Lead Aircraft Technician (crew chief) for Delta Air Lines. He purchased and began running Tank Workshop in 2005 from Tiger Model Designs and has always been a one-man operation except for the master making. Jay has been building models since he was a boy. He has built just about everything under the sun but settled into armour in his teens. His second hobby finds him in front of the computer playing games like Call of Duty Modern Warfare, Battlefield 2 and other first person shooters. I think it important that we as modellers understand that most of these one-man after-market operations are not corporate giants but rather guys like you and me who have a keen interest in the hobby and are modellers like the rest of us. It is therefore my pleasure to interview Jay this month.



THE INTERVIEW

- Luke:** Hi Jay. Good to have you with us. Can you tell our readers what motivates you to do masters?
- Jay:** *Hi Luke, glad to be here and thank you for this opportunity. Well, as far as masters go I do not do many. I do mainly wheels and small stuff. I'm primarily involved with the manufacturing and distribution part of Tank Workshop. I am motivated by my passion for modelling. I enjoy producing the kits and parts that other modellers use to detail their kits as well as providing the best customer service out there. I usually commission master makers to develop new kits and products.*
- Luke:** Having cast your masters up yourself in the past, can you explain the process involved here?, I understand that making a master for production purposes is a little different than, say, making a model for yourself?
- Jay:** *Yes it's a huge difference as, when building a master for a kit, one has to think how the parts will be moulded as well as how they will assemble once produced. There are many processes involved with producing a new item. It all starts with the master pattern that is usually provided to me by one of the many master makers out there. Once the pattern arrives I separate the parts out and figure how they will be set onto the pouring blocks. Once this is done I make a set of moulds. These moulds are used to make the production masters. The production masters are made with a harder stronger resin as these masters will be used over and over to make new moulds over time as sometimes the original master can be damaged when de-moulding it from the first run of moulds. Once the production masters are done then the final production moulds are made. Now the kit is ready for release. Some kits require instructions to be developed so, once my moulds are done, I sit down at the bench and build the kit. During this process I make notes and photos and once complete move to the computer to make the final copies of the instructions. This also allows me to find potential build problems or the need to add additional parts such as plastic tube, brass wire etc.*
- Luke:** Interesting comments Jay. I'm sure our readers were for the most part unaware of the difficulties involved. Do you have a particular field of interest that you like to follow?
- Jay:** *I wouldn't say they were difficulties. I look at the entire process as a challenge. The challenge is being able to see the kit from a modeller's point of view and how best to assemble this kit as well as making it enjoyable. I have built those frustrating kits before and they weren't fun. I really don't have a 100% field of interest. I mainly like German WW II armour but lately I have caught the modern bug. With all of the excellent Stryker kits as well as the upcoming M-RAP and HETT kits on the horizon. How can you not get into modern equipment?*
- Luke:** I know this can be a tricky question, but who do you admire most in the 1:48 scale modelling community?
- Jay:** *Wow Luke you like putting me on the spot! As I have only been producing 1:48 scale kits for a couple of years and know a few in the community I'd have to say off the top of my head Steve Faxon, Bob Batdorf and Bruce Culver. Steve and Bob have both contributed countless hours mastering and producing 1:48 scale kits for the community and Bruce gave me the opportunity to take the leap of faith by offering me the original Iron Division line that allowed me to start the Tank Workshop 48 line. Bob also supplied me with some new masters as well. Steve continues to produce masters and is keeping me quite busy. As I write this, I have three new kits on the bench from Steve and I have purchased three of Bob's Iron Division II masters which at the time of this being published should be released.*
- Luke:** Okay, here is another tricky one. Who do you admire in terms of master model making and your thoughts on the process of pantographing down larger kits to 1:48 scale?
- Jay:** *Once again you back me into a corner Luke! First off I'd say all master makers. Why? Because, it takes true artistic talent to look at some photos and drawings and produce a master that can be built into a kit. There are a few off the top of my head that stand out though. In the 1:35 scale world I'd have to say Karl Van Sweden. Karl did several masters for me and I have to say he does beautiful work. On the 1:48 scale side I have to say Steve Faxon, Bill Wiseman and Bob Batdorf. I believe, it's only a matter of time, before you see the larger kits scaled down. Tamiya has been doing it and it won't surprise me if Dragon and the other big manufacturers start doing the same.*
- Luke:** Jay, are there any surprises coming up from you in the future?
- Jay:** *Hmm, no comment. Really I don't make announcements of what may be coming as sometimes as we all have seen it never comes. The result of that as we have all seen, can turn into ugly discussion group arguments as well as getting a reputation of not coming through with your promises.*
- Luke:** Yes, I feel your pain there Jay! I know you're a busy man so one last question. What are your thoughts on 1:48 and what should we all do to make it the premium scale?
- Jay:** *I think 1:48 scale is growing. Some of the big boys, other than Tamiya, are starting to invest in it and that trickles down to us little guys to make conversions, updates and accessories. I think 1:48 scale modellers should be showcasing their work on the various discussion groups to pique the interest of others. I have seen quite a few excellent 1:48 scale models on the Forums. From my standpoint, I always welcome suggestions and those that want to master. It is a great scale not only for the armour builder but it trickles over to the aircraft modeller as well. So it's a scale that can be a win-win in most markets.*



1:48 Scale - A round-up of the latest news and releases



SLINGSHOT MODELS

1:48 SCALE RF-8 AEROSAN • KIT NO. SSM 48001

It is pleasing to find a new 1:48 manufacturer expanding the range of products we can purchase. This new company comes from Greece and if their first release is anything to go by, we are indeed blessed by their presence.

Slingshot's 1:48 Aerosan kit comes in a plain brown box with a photo of the completed model adorning its top. The kit contains five plastic ziplock bags offering 26 well cast pieces and one ziplock bag containing 3 pre-formed wire pieces plus one acetate sheet for the windscreen. A well drawn and easy to understand instruction booklet is provided that includes a 1:48 three-view drawing, assembly sequence and a CAD drawing of a vehicle without paint, which is ideal for those of us who like to chip paint.

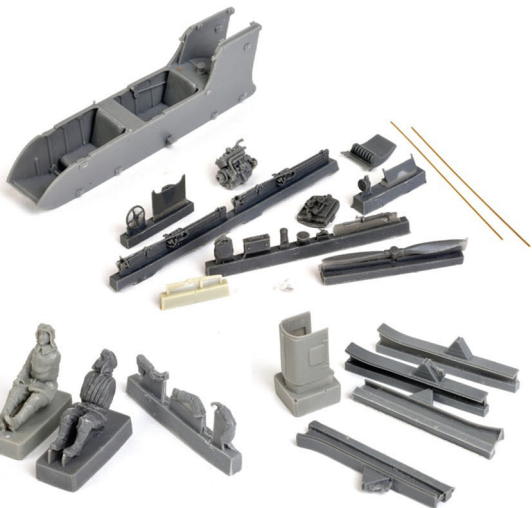
The fit of all the major components is very good and is a credit to the designer involved. It is the little things that make this kit a winner from the clear resin headlight to the inclusion of pre-formed wire propeller guards. The two very well done figures is a bonus but from a brief "play" with them some reworking may be necessary (apart from the removal of the boots as mentioned in the instructions) to make them fit correctly, they are however a good starting point and very welcome.

I like this kit. It is an interesting vehicle and to be honest somewhat more accurate than the recently released 1:35 versions of this snow sled. This is really is a first class product for a small start up company and if you have any doubts about them or the kit, don't. It is well worth the purchase price.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Slingshot Models for the sample www.slingshotmodels.com

Luke Pitt



GASO.LINE

Automitrailleuse Sd.Kfz.234/1 20 mm FlaK38



(conversion pour kit Italeri)
Réf.: GAS48098 1/48e

GASO.LINE

1:48 SCALE

SD.KFZ.234/1 20MM FLAK38 CONVERSION FOR ITALERI • KIT NO: GAS48098

The German army was very innovative in their approach to vehicle modification and the Anti Aircraft version of the "Puma" armoured car was another example of this. In this same way Gaso-Line provide this update set for our consideration.

Packed in a clear plastic blister pack are 37 resin parts, black tulle netting and brass RB model 20mm barrel. The instruction sheet provides a brief history of this vehicle as well as colour pictures parts number layout, construction sequences and an image of the fully finished and painted conversion kit by Domingo Hernandez.

The main resin parts supplied for the modification are the upper hull base plate, turret shell and turret interior. The detail on these parts is well done, with some minor resin flash and some sanding required to smooth a few or the edges of the turret. All in all, nothing too difficult to do if you are used to working with resin.

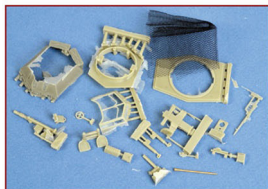
The removal of all of the resin pour plugs on some of the parts will require great care and time and patience in doing so will pay off.

I did a quick test fit of the conversion parts to the Italeri kit and all is in order to ensure a relatively hassle free construction. The black tulle netting for the grenade grills may have been better supplied as photos etch parts and seems a bit of a letdown considering the inclusion of the very nice brass RB barrels 20mm gun. Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Gaso.Line for the review sample www.gaso-line.eu

Available online from Quarter Kit www.quarter-kit.com

Ross Ferro





Book Reviews

NUTS AND BOLTS VOLUME 28

GLEISKETTEN-LKWs "MAULTIER" (SD.Kfz. 3)

BY HEINER F. DUSKE, TONY GREENLAND AND DETLEV TERLISTEN

The latest publication from the Nuts and Bolts team covers the Gleisketten-LKWs "Mautlier" (Sd.Kfz. 3). It is a little unusual for a single Nuts & Bolts issue to discuss four separate vehicles, but these are so clearly related that it makes sense to treat the Mautlier family of unarmoured half-tracks as a single system.

The book is presented in A4 format over 160 high quality glossy pages between soft covers. The text is delivered in both English and German, each occupying one column on every page. Captions are also bi-lingual. The detailed text commences with the development, production and technical details of the Mautlier vehicles, specific details on the Opel, Ford, Magirus and the larger Mercedes, deployment and operational duties, plus a brief discussion of camouflage and markings.

Tony Greenland then takes up the analysis of the various Mautlier half-tracks available as 1:35 scale models from manufacturers including Zvezda, CyberHobby, ICM and even New Connections' discontinued resin Magirus Mautlier.

The text then gives over to nearly 70 pages of wartime photos, mostly three photos to a page and all helpfully captioned.

Pages 96 to 120 contain scale drawings of all four brands of Mautlier and their many variants, with different hard and soft cabs, mounted artillery, and alternative cargo beds. This section also includes handy scrap views, detail drawings and high three-quarter views. Next up is a ten-page section with colour side profiles, two to a page and each supported by small wartime photos and a reference on where to see a larger version in the main body of the book.

26 pages of colour walkaround and detail photos of surviving Mautliers follow, with the book being wrapped up by photos and descriptions of Tony Greenland's four Mautlier models.

Nuts and Bolts Volume 28 will be the ideal one-stop reference for anyone interested in building any of the four Mautlier kits currently available in 1:35 scale.

Highly Recommended.

Nuts and Bolts books are available online from their website www.nuts-bolts.de

Brett Green

WEAPONS OF WAR SERIES

3.7 INCH ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN IN CANADIAN SERVICE - DOUG KNIGHT

THE OTTER RECONNAISSANCE CAR IN CANADIAN SERVICE - ROGER V. LUCY

The Canadian Army has fielded many different weapons, vehicles and weapon systems over the years and this series of softcover books is dedicated to those subjects. These are the latest titles in the series joining many similar titles already in the range. Despite their size, these AS publications cram a lot of great information and photographs into their typical 24 pages.

The first title is the Otter Reconnaissance Car in Canadian Service, which offers helpful insight into this important vehicle that served the Canadian reconnaissance formations during World War Two and through the Korean War. It starts with its inspiration - the British Humber Ironsides - and takes the reader through its development, production, roles and ends with Post war service. Many black and white photos illustrate the book offering the modeller some great potential subjects.

Rounding out the batch is a title devoted to the excellent British Heavy AA gun of WWII, the Ordnance 3.7 Inch AA Gun. This excellent weapon was of supreme importance and service with all the Commonwealth forces throughout the war and long after in some. Canadian Production was instigated in July 1940 and by war's end some 3500 plus mountings and 5129 loose barrels had been delivered.

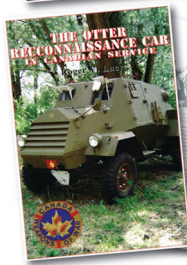
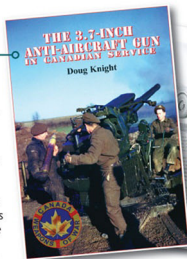
Like others in the series, this title charts the development of the gun with its origins in the WW1 era 3" AA gun and takes the reader through a thorough description of the gun, its ammunition and support equipment such as the Molins fuse setter, automatic loader and radar. It also discusses the gun position and Canadian production. A chapter is devoted to the Canadians' attempts to mechanise AA with the mating of the 3.7 to the RAM tank. Finally, Canada's only heavy AA Regt, the 2nd Heavy AA Regt RCA, is discussed alongside Air Defence in Canada.

Many excellent photos of the guns, ancillaries and trial equipments fill the pages and a four view scale drawing is included, although no scale is given. However, a scale bar is included in metres and feet. These books cram a lot of useful information backed by black and white photographs and line drawings into their 24 A5 sized pages. They are both a great addition to the library whether you are a modeller, historian or enthusiast.

Recommended.

Thanks to Service Publications for the sample www.servicepub.com/weapons.html

Al Bowle



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Next Issue

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KV KAPUT

Javier Redondo Jimenez returns with a story of a knocked out KV-1, based on the Trumpeter 1:35 scale KV-1.



BIG GUN

Jim Wechsler builds AFV Club's 1:35 scale M1128 Stryker Mobile Gun System (MGS), the 'big gun' in the Stryker family

ZRINYI

Carlos Bravo Rodríguez and Joaquín García Gázquez collaborate to deliver this interesting Hungarian tank destroyer from Cz Kolinec Models in 1:35 scale.



ERZATZ KING TIGER

Paweł Rzymiski makes some dramatic changes to Dragon's 1:35 scale Tiger II to deliver a night-fighting behemoth!

...and much more!

Due to many influencing factors, we cannot guarantee the appearance of the above projects, but we'll try our best!

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The Last Post..

RESICAST NEW RELEASES

Resicast has a really interesting batch of new releases this month:

- 351221 - Morris C9 armoured car - Complete resin kit with decals
- 351222 - ARK Italian Pattern Conversion for AFV Churchill
- 355629 - BEF soldier
- 355630 - BEF soldier "Thumbs up"
- 355632 - Belgian Soldier "Cycliste"
- 355633 - Peaked Caps 5 heads
- 355634 - Officer Leaning 11th Hussars North Africa
- 355635 - Officer "Reading Book" 11th Hussars North Africa

More information may be found on Resicast's website www.resicast.com



NEW AND NEXT FROM THE OLIVER PUBLISHING GROUP

Oliver Publishing Group's latest release - Westwall: German Armour In The West, 1945 (ISBN 978-0-9806593-6-8) - is now available.

Claude Gillon is busy working on his next book - Fortress: German Armour In The Defence Of Sicily - and what will probably be the next Oliver Publishing Group release - Comrade Emcha: Soviet Shermans in WW2 - is in its final draft now and almost ready for the printers.

Early 2012 will see the release of STUG: Assault Gun Units In The East, Operation Bagration To Berlin and another title - Viking Summer. 5.SS-Panzer Division in Poland, 1944 - which is on the drawing board now.

Thanks to The Oliver Publishing Group for the information and images www.oliverpublishinggroup.com

2011 IN RETROSPECT - THANKS TO THE TEAM

I am sitting down to write this Last Post at the beginning of December. This would seem to be a fitting time to reflect on the past year.

Any magazine is an ensemble effort and this title is no exception. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of Model Military International's contributors, whose wonderful models and research have appeared in these pages over 2011 and previous years. Thanks to all of you for your efforts.

As some of you might know, although ADH Publishing's headquarters is located in Bedfordshire, I work out of my basement in Sydney Australia. I could hardly be physically further away from the office, but I always feel part of the team thanks to the great people on the other side of my computer screen. High-speed Internet technology helps too.

Alex Hall has had the design duties for MMI this year. No matter how good the models or photography might be, the logical layout of the magazine is essential to telling the story. Alex has gone beyond this mere technical requirement, translating raw text and pictures into the attractive pictorial narrative that you see between these covers each month with his usual telepathy and artistic flair. Congratulations on a fantastic job.

ADH Publishing's Group Editor Marcus Nicholls has always made himself available, and has gone above and beyond the call of duty on many occasions with his feedback, suggestions and support.

Luke Pitt has proved himself a true champion of 1:48 scale with his monthly column and tenacious campaigning for middle-scale. Thanks Luke.

There is a surprising amount of administrative work associated with any magazine, such as dealing with correspondence and distributing samples. Thanks to Paula, Hannah, Colin and Joe for managing much of the back-office burden of MMI.

Of course, I am always grateful to Alan Harman, our esteemed Publisher, primarily for letting me stay on in this fantastic job!

The world economy has been shaky for the past few years, so I would like to especially acknowledge and thank all the companies - model manufacturers, distributors and retailers large and small - that have advertised in these pages, or supplied samples and news for the magazine. We know that some of you must have been finding it tough lately, and we all look forward to better times in the future.

There have been some exciting developments during 2011 though, including a number of superb kit releases and the innovative use of technologies. Close to home, this year ADH Publishing launched digital editions of all its magazines for Apple iPad and iPhone, Android devices, PC and Mac. These are proving to be popular supplements to the paper versions.

2011 has also seen the launch of ADH Publishing's newest magazine, Military Illustrated Modeller. With 12 issues per year alternating between Military Vehicles and Aircraft subjects, Military Illustrated Modeller features high quality paper and production, perfect bound book 'feel' and is also available in digital editions. Marcus Nicholls heads up the AFV Edition, while I have been privileged to be Editor of the Aircraft Edition. Variety is the spice of life!

And lastly but certainly not least, thank you, MMI reader, for your ongoing support of the magazine. We hope that you will enjoy the models, research and news that we will be bringing you in 2012. ■

Brett Green

Sd.Kfz.7/1 2cm Flakvierling 38 w/Armor Cab 2 in 1

Smart Kit

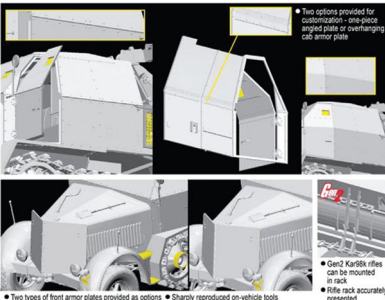
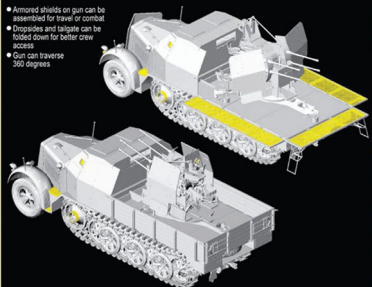
Engineered for modeling enjoyment

Plastic parts with enhanced detail

Unprecedented value

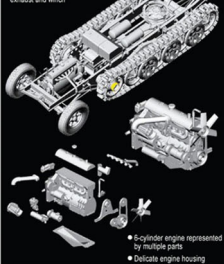
Ready for immediate assembly!

- Armored shields on gun can be assembled for travel or combat
- Hatches and tailgate can be folded down for better crew access
- Gun can traverse 360 degrees



- Two types of front armor plates provided as options
- Sharply reproduced on-vehicle tools

- Intricately detailed internal mechanical components: engine, gearbox, fuel tank, compressed air tank, suspension, exhaust and winch



- 6-cylinder engine represented by multiple parts
- Delicate engine housing

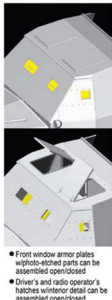


- Suspension system as per the real vehicle: slide-molded suspension arms and springs with delicate detail

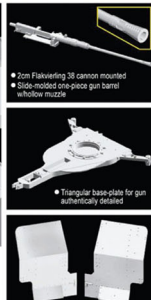


- Two options provided for customization: one-piece angled plate or overhanging cab armor plate

- Gen2 Kar98k rifles can be mounted in rack
- Rifle rack accurately presented

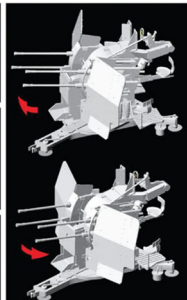


- Front window armor plates with etched details can be assembled open/closed
- Driver's and radio operator's hatches with interior detail can be assembled open/closed



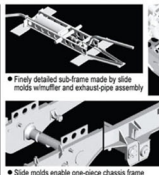
- 2cm Flakvierling 38 cannon mounted
- Slide-molded one-piece gun barrel with hollow muzzle

- Triangular base-plate for gun authentically detailed



- Gun shield molded to correct scale thickness

- Cannon can be freely posed at different angles



- Finely detailed sub-frame made by slide-molded winch and exhaust-pipe assembly

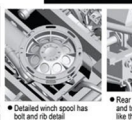
- Slide molds enable one-piece chassis frame with support-brace detail



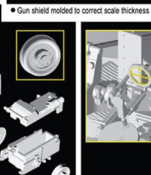
- Winch assembly with rope, low hook and pulley realistically reproduced



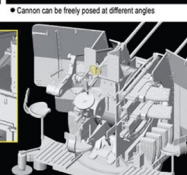
- Detailed gearbox has multi-part assembly
- Brake drums have detail on both sides



- Detailed winch spool has both end detail



- Rear crossbeam with roller and trailer coupling depicted like the real one



- Gun cradle offers great detail definition
- Gun sight and hand wheels with well-defined detail



- Fully detailed steering mechanism



- Accurately shaped front fenders made from 2-directional slide-molded



- Different road wheels rendered with delicate detail on both sides



- Sprocket with realistic ribbed detail
- Front wheels made from 3D have authentic tire tread pattern



- Photo-etched flange around sprocket wheel
- Final-drive housing made from separate parts with bolt and rib detail
- Optional headlamps provided



- Rear mirror realistically presented
- Reinforced track links

D6533

Dragon Kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited, Knowhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PG

See the full Dragon range at www.hobbyco.net

Dragon models are available from all good model shops

DRAGON

THE HOBBY COMPANY LIMITED

www.hobbyco.net

Yamato Redefined

Created from the latest research and 20 new sets of molds.

At 752mm long and consisting of over 1,500 parts, Tamiya's 1/350 scale model kit is as close as you can get to the actual ship. This model depicts the famous Japanese battleship as she appeared during her final sortie to Okinawa, complete with increased anti-aircraft armament. Features which are not found on previous injection-molded models of the ship, including the turret barbettes and support rollers on the sides of the hull, have been reproduced as well and modelers may choose to assemble the kit as either a full-hull or waterline display model. This high level of accuracy and detail means this kit is not only the pinnacle of ship modeling, but also quite literally Tamiya's new flagship model.



★The massive form of the ship has been accurately reproduced. Precision molding technology has recreated the appearance of weld joins on the hull's surface.

★Display base with photo-etched name plate included.

★Model depicts the ship's final form with increased AA armament. Most 12.7cm DP gun turrets and triple 25mm cannon mounts may be rotated after assembly.

(Full-Hull Model)

- Length: 752mm
- Beam: 111mm



(Waterline Model)



A Even the turret barbettes and support rollers have been reproduced. Polycaps enable switching of gun barrels to depict two different elevation angles.

B The stern area has been engineered for ease of construction. The hangar door may be assembled in either open or closed position and photo-etched parts precisely reproduce the crane arm and catapult rails. Metal anchor chains and propeller shafts are also included.

C A generous amount of photo-etched parts is supplied.

大和

1/350 Japanese Battleship Yamato (Item 78025)

For Even
Greater Detail

- 1/350 Scale WWII Japanese Navy Utility Boat Set (Item 78026)
- 1/350 Scale Photo-Etched Handrail Set A (Item 12642)
- 1/350 Scale Metal 46cm Gun Barrels & Projectiles (Item 12643)

B5 Size, 32 Page
Reference Booklet
Included



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